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#### Panels debate repeal of laws

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament's Judiciary and Finance committees held a joint meeting Monday to pursue discussion on a draft law for repealing anti-Israeli legislation and ending the economic boycott with the enemy and heard the views of a number of Parliament members and experts invited to attend the meeting. Parliament Speaker Saed Hayel Srour, who attended the session, said after the meeting that the joint committee has scheduled another meeting for Sunday to hear other experts' views in this matter. These will include a soft the chambers of in this matter. These will include presidents of the chambers of commerce and industry as well as economist Fahed Al Fanek. During Monday's meeting several proposals were made which could be dealt with in the next session. "We are not in a hurry to finish this subject as we are keen on scrutinising every detail and every idea and cover the subject in all its aspects," added Mr. Srour. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh as well as the ministers of finance, industry and trade, justice and labour attended the committee meeting along with several deputies and His Majesty King Hussein's advisor on international law affairs.



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## Jordanians vote in nationwide municipal elections today

Prime minister vows to ensure fair and free polls, urges citizens to vote and elect right candidates

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanians vote today in the first nationwide municipal polls to elect local officials in what is seen as a test for the maturity of the Kingdom's electorate six years into a democratisation process.
On the eve of the elec-

tions, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker vowed that the government would do everything to ensure free and fair elections and called on voters to turn out en masse to exercise their democratic rights and enhance the democratisation process in the Kingdom.

At stake are 259 councils with nine members and a mayor each. Almost all political parties, licensed since the adoption of the Political Parties Law in 1992, are fielding candidates in the race for clout in local administration.

Also elected will be half the 40 members of the Greater Amman Municipal Council. The other 20 as well as a mayor will be

nominated by the govern-ment under the new Municipalities Law adopted in

It is the first time that Jordan is holding elections to all the municipal councils on the same day. The way was cleared for nationwide elections on the same day when the government dissolved all councils and appointed temporary committees last year ahead of polls following the enactment of the new law.

Centrist parties have come out in strength to field candidates. The mainstream Islamist party, the Islamic Action Front (IAF), says it has handpicked only certain councils for its candidates, and leftist groups say they are trying their luck in the elections mainly to make their political presence felt.

Interviews with voters have indicated that the electorate was more oriented towards electing candidates who could serve them and improve services in their constituencies rather than choosing their candidates on the basis of

political ideology.

According to official figures, 3,393 candidates for council seats and 963 for mayorships have registered for the elections in the 259 councils. But the actual race today will be for only 231 councils since 28 councils and their mayors were elected last week by acclamation, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

Petra said 789, 274 voters had registered to vote. The government has announced today a public holiday to allow all to vote in their respective districts.

Sharif Zeid, in a statement carried by Petra, said the municipal elections reflected Jordan's civilised and democratic life.

In an implicit reference to IAF claims that the government was trying to undermine the party in the elections, the prime minis-ter emphasised the executive authority's commitment and keen interest to ensure the polls would be fair and free in the most

comfortable atmosphere. Specially qualified teams will supervise both the voting process and ballot

counting, he said, adding that the government had taken every measure and made every arrangement to ensure the smooth conduct of the entire process.

Sharif Zeid called on citizens to turn out for vot-

"It is the duty of every citizen to participate in this important event and help choose the right persons to serve their local communsaid the prime minis-"Participating in the municipal elections is a national responsibility reflecting the Jordanian people's determination to contribute to the success of the democratic system and to ensure that better municipal services are offered by the elected councils," he

"Our country needs the combined efforts of various sectors, national and political forces, official and private organisations and pri-



in screets in Jordanian towns are bedecked with campaign banners of candidates ahead of today's municipal elections (Photo by Rana Husseini)

vate individuals to serve the common cause," he

Voting centres open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. Local officials are empo-

wered to extend the voting period by another two hours if warranted. Results are expected late at night and early Wednesday. Nearly 900,000 voters -

of an estimated electorate of 1.3 million — registered for the last parliamentary elections, held in 1993. Only about 750,000 of them actually cast their bal-

Many observers expect an average turnout, with some voters opting to take advantage of the holiday to

## Israel insists on control of W.Bank water sources

(Agencies) — Israel insists on retaining control over most of the West Bank's water resources even after Palestinian autonomy is established throughout the area, Israel's agriculture minister said Monday. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) condemned the demand.

one of the most precious resources in the Middle East, marked the latest snag in efforts to reach agreement on an Israeli troop withdrawal from West Bank towns and Palestinian elections by the target date of July 25.

The Israeli position on water rights came out of discussions between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and water experts prior to planned talks with the PLO in Florence, Italy, this week.

Agriculture Minister' that Israel would oppose any change in the way water is pumped out of the large aquifer under the West Bank.

"There is water that is used in Israel and water that is used by the Palestinians," he said. "It is all from the same bathtub and we are not about

dry up areas of Israel and enrich parts of the Palestinian territory."
Currently, the West Bank

acruifer supplies Israel with 740 million cubic metres annually, about 40 per cent of the water used by its 5.5 million citizens, according to . the Middle East Intelligence

nians of the West Bank get about 130 million cubic metres annually from the aquifer — about 2.5 times less per person than Israelis. Agriculture ministry

spokesman Roni Hassid said that under the Israeli proposal, the Palestinians would not be permitted to conduct new drillings for water in the West Bank, except on a limited scale in the Jordan Valley. Faisal Husseini, the top PLO official in Jerusalem, termed the Israeli position

"It is not just," he said. They are not the masters and we are not the slaves." He said that while Palestinians suffer constant water shortages, Israeli settlers in the West Bank have "everything including swimming pools.

'disgusting.'

unfair share-out which allows the Israelis to take 85 per cent of the water resources. from the West Bank." he

Mr. Husseini warned that if the issue was not settled it could put the peace process in jeopardy. "We also have a public opinion to which we are accountable," he said.

ture ministry, the main water source runs from beneath Hebron to the Mediterranean coast in Israel. It provides more than 350 million cubic metres a year.

The "northern" source runs under Jenin to Israel's Gilboa region and supplies 140 million cubic metres.

A third source beneath the Jordan Valley has a capacity of 170 million cubic metres, which is not fully used. spokesman Hassid said. He said the Palestinians

should also look for international aid to build water treatment plants as a way of making up the shortage. U.S. mediator Dennis B. Ross flew to Tel Aviv Sunday night, with an open schedule beyond expected shuttling between Syria and Israel. His

## Syria outlines peace

But the radio warned: ter Yitzhak Rabin demands tion of the plateau."

The radio commentator

ity" in the region.

Mr. Ross, the U.S. State

Department coordinator for

tween Syrian Chief of Staff Hikmat Shehabi and his Israeli counterpart Amnon Shahak "made some progress on certain points but did not reach arrangements for guaranteeing the security of

progress in the talks was achieved during his latest tour.

ensure the achievement of some kind of progress in the right direction which would allow the peace process to move in practical steps towards achieving just and comprehensive peace," the official Al Baath daily said.

"To achieve this progress the Israeli position should change and should become more clear regarding the conditions and requirements of peace," it said.

(Continued on page 7)

## Regent receives Sudanese message

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Monday received a mes-sage from Sudanese President Omar Hassan Al Bashir addressed to His Majesty King Hussein believed to deal with the latest crisis between Sudan and Egypt.

vered by Mahdi Ibrahim, a minister of state in the Sudanese government, in a meeting attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Minister of State Taha Hababbeh and the Sudanese ambassador to Jordan, Ali Abdul Rahman Numeiri.

The Jordan News Agencv. Petra, which reported the Regent's meeting with Mr. Ibrahim, did not give any details of the message,

but diplomatic sources said they believed it dealt with the row between Cairo and Khartoum after Egypt accused Sudan of involvement in a foiled assassination attempt against Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Addis Ababa on June 26. Khartoum has denied the charges.
The sources would not

elaborate. It was, however, believed that Lieutenantrequesting King Hussein, who enjoys good relations with President Mubarak, to mediate between Cairo and

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa said this week that Cairo did not feel that there was any need for mediation from any quarters after reports said Gen. Bashir also sought help from Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. The Sudanese leader,

plished their given assign-

ments are returning in batch-

es," Foreign Ministry spokes-

man Omer Akbel told repor-

ters. He did not say how

many troops had returned to

Some 3,000 mountain com-

mandos trained locally in the

Turkish border province of

Hakkari from where the

thrust began, have taken part

in the operation spread over

2,800 square kilometres, offi-

The Arab League and

Iraq, which lost control of its

northern areas to Iraqi Kur-

dish guerrillas after the 1991

Gulf war, have condemned

the Turkish incursion and

urged an immediate with-

The United Nations says

hundreds of Iraqi Kurdish

families have fled the latest

details but a military source

said it was very hard to say

Mr. Akbel gave no other

Turkish onslaught.

whose relations with President Mubarak had been at best jumpy after he took power in 1989, has sent messages to most Arab leaders on his crisis with Egypt. Khartoum has also called for Arab League mediation to defuse the dis-

According to Arab diplo-

mats, Sudan also appeared to be exploring possibilities of convening an Arab sumplomats, prospects for convening a summit were almost non-existent. Mr. Ibrahim, who arrived here at noon Mon-

day, paid tribute to Jordanian-Sudanese relations in an arrival statement and said his visit aimed at enhancing bilateral

It was the second visit of a Sudanese minister to Jordan in two days. Salahuddin Mohammad Al Karrar,

the Sudanese minister of mining and energy, made a stopover in Amman on Sunday on his way home from Baghdad, where he delivered a message from Gen. Bashir to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

In Amman, Mr. Karrar

held talks with his Jordanian counterpart, Samih Darwazeh, on Jordanian cooperation in oil- and energy-related areas. While in Baghdad, Mr.

Karrar and Iraqi Oil Minister Amer Rashid signed an agreement calling for Iraqi-Sudanese cooperation in oil and mining. Reporting the agree-

ment, the Iraqi media said Sudan had benefitted from Iraqi expertise in oil expioration and processing.

The exact nature of the Sudanese-Iragi agreement was not immediately

## Turkey says 36 more Abequa sentenced rebels killed in Iraq couple of days. "Troops who have accom-

ANKARA (Agencies) -Turkish troops and Kurdish rebels clashed in northern Iraq on Monday in fighting which left 36 guerrillas dead, local officials said.

The clashes occurred just south of the border from the Turkish town of Cukurca, the regional governor's office said in Diyarbakir, southeast Turkey.

Since Wednesday, about 3,000 Turkish troops, backed by warplanes and helicopters, have been striking at Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) bases, suspected as launching points for attacks into Turkey.

Some 650 rebels were believed to be based in the area. The government-reported rebel death toll went up to 146 since the beginning of the operation.

Battles were going on as far as 40 kilometres inside northern Iraq in an area where the borders of Turkey, Iran and Iraq converge.

The operation extends along a 70-kilometre long area parallel to the border. It involves the section of

when clashes in the border northern Iraq controlled by Iraqi Kurds who want indearea would definitely end because units would fight on their return to Turkey if they pendence from Baghdad. encountered any rebel The area is protected by a groups. U.S.-jed: allied air force. The statement said four soldiers were also killed dur-

Army experts say the mountains offer the rebels. ing the clashes with the rebels born and bred in the region, on Monday, increasing the thousands of caves many of military death toll to 19 since which connect to more than last Wednesday. one exit and can be used all The area is mountainous year around as shelters and terrain with high temperaarsenals.

It is fairly impossible to The official Anatolia news locate, search out and control agency reported on Monday the whole of the subterratroops would withdraw in a nean network, they say.

# to 16 years in jail

ruled.

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Criminal Court on Monday found Mohammad Ismael Abequa. a Jordanian-American accused of strangling his estranged wife in the U.S., guilty of second degree murder and kidnapping and sentenced him to 16 years with hard labour.

Presiding Judge Abdul Rahman Tawfiq sentenced Mr. Abequa to 15 years for the murder of his wife Nihal. and an additional year for kidnapping the couple's two children, Lisa 7, and Sami 4. Judge Tawfiq said the Pro-secutor General Khalid Darwish had sought the maximum penalty arguing that it was a premeditated murder, "but the court believes it was

a second degree murder." Judge Tawfiq said the prosecution did not provide enough substantial evidence to "convince us that it was a premeditated murder."

He said that a telephone call that Mr. Abequa made to his separated wife on July 3, one day before the murder, to inform her that he was coming for a visit "is an indication that he did not plan to kill her the following day.

"The surprise element is absent since he informed his wife he was coming," Judge Tawfiq said, adding that the fact that the man ate breakfast and spent three hours in his wife's apartment was strong evidence that he did not intend to kill her.

A July 3 reservation made.

U.S. on July 5 was not strong evidence, Judge Tawfiq

The reservation, he added,

could mean two possibilities - "kidnapping the children, or planning to kill his wife." According to court documents, Mr. Abequa a naturalised American, strangled\_ his 40-year-old wife in her apartment in Ner Jersey in a dispute over the custody of

the two children. The document said that Mr. Abequa put a plastic bag on his wife's face, stuffed her body under her bed and fled to Jordan with the children.

On July 20 he was apprehended by the Jordanian authorities at the request of U.S. authorities. Four days later he confessed to committing the crime.

It was one of the rare cases to be tried here of a Jordanian for a crime committed outside Jordan. The case drew more attention when His Majesty King Hussein personally intervened in the case after U.S. congressmen sought his intervention to return the two children to their mother's family.

Mr. Abequa had pleaded not guilty to both charges. Mr. Abequa had argued that he killed his wife in a fit of fury claiming that his wife was having an affair and because he did not agree with the way his children were being brought up.

The two children were handed over by the Jordanian government to their maternal

(Continued on page 7)

#### "We will not agree to this (Continued on page 7) to change the division ... to South Pacific blasts French attack on Rainbow Warrior

SYDNEY (Agencies) — South Pacific nations on Monday angrily denounced the storming of Greenpeace flagship Rainbow Warrior by French commandos, describing the use of tear-gas as excessive and another blow to France's badly dented im-

age.
The storming of the ship by masked commandos near France's Mururoa atoll nuclear test site unleashed a wave of official protest, with the region's-major powers, Australia and New Zealand, summoning French envoys to explain the incident.

Television pictures of the action and radio reports in which the Rainbow Warrior crew could be heard screaming and gasping from the tear-gas, led news reports around the region.

Smashing windows, breaking down doors and spraying tear-gas, French commandos overran the ship as it neared a south Pacific atoll where France plans to resume controversial nuclear testing.

The confrontation Sunday came 10 years after scuba divers from the French secret service bombed and sank the original Rainbow Warrior in Auckland Harbor, New Zealand, on July 10, 1985.

No one was injured, the French government said in a statement. Greenpeace said two people were injured by

Some 150 commandos in black helmets and jumpsuits boarded the Rainbow Warrior II at 6:40 a.m. local time, removing two dozen people from the vessel, Greenpeace officials said in Paris.

About 10 of those taken from the ship were held on Mururoa for questioning, French Prosecutor Jean-Pierre Dreno said in Paris. He said the ship had 22 crew memoers, three passengers and six journalists.

"We were all gassed," Greenpeace spokesman Jean-Luc Thierry said by telephone from the ship shortly before communications were broken off.

The voyage of the Rainbow Warriot II was aimed at calling world attention to French plans to set off eight underground nuclear test blasts between September and May, abandoning a moratorium declared by former President François Mit-

terrand in 1992. The nuclear testing plans, announced in June by French President Jacques Chirac, have sparked widespread

Rainbow Warrior II left the exclusion zone around the Mururoa atoll Monday, an official said. After dropping anchor 15

it was still being shadowed by a French navy frigate, a spokesman for the group said in Paris. However, a rubber dinghy with three Greenpeace members was believed to have

nautical miles northeast of

the atoll in the South Pacific.

evaded capture by French military authorities, the spokesman said. He said the dinghy came from another Greenpeace vessel in the area, the Vega,

but gave no further details. The Rainbow Warrior II was towed away from the atoll by a French navy tug after defying the exclusion zone around the atoll by sail-

ing directly towards it. The environmental activists appeared to have been forced to leave faster than they wanted. Earlier a spokesman on board the ship said they were tired and expected to leave the atoll around 1700 GMT.

Earlier in the day crew members were hauled back (Continued on page 7)

# terms for

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria announced Monday for the first time that it would be prepared to allow early warning stations on its territory as part of a peace deal on condition they were not manned by

Israelis. "If the installation of early warning stations is seen to be indispensable on both two sides of the Syrian-Israeli border, these could be operated by international forces and friends," state radio said.

The comments came as U.S. envoy Dennis Ross arrived in Israel on a new mission to try to push forward military talks between Israel and Syria on security arrangements to accompany a pullback on the Golan

"Syria refuses the presence of Israeli soldiers and officers on the Golan as Prime Minisfor such a presence would signify the continued occupa-

added any Israeli presence on the strategic Heights would be a "flagrant violation of Syrian sovereignty" and said 'only peace can ensure secur-

the Middle East, was due to travel Tuesday to Damascus to prepare for a new round of talks in Washington between Israeli and Syrian military experts later this month. The radio said negotiations last month in Washington be-

the two sides in an equal and fair way.' A Syrian paper said Mr. Ross should seek concessions from Israel to ensure that

"The new Ross tour should

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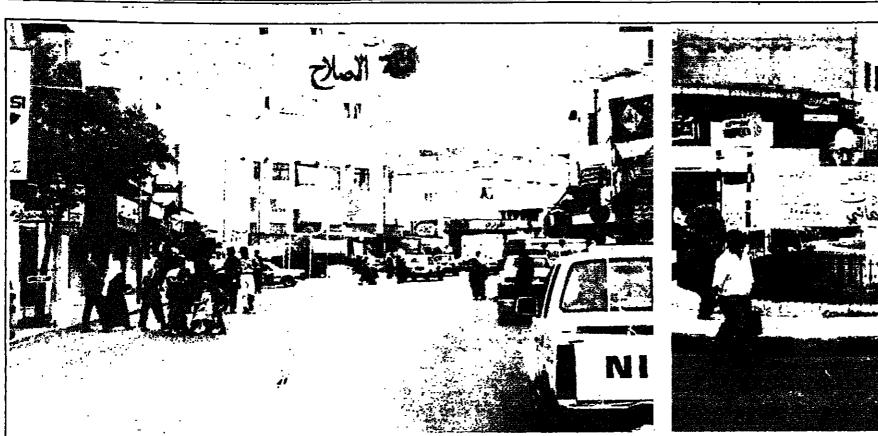
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ELECTION SPIRIT IN IRBID: The streets of the northern town of Irbid is bedecked with campaign banners of candidates in today's (Tuesday's) municipal elections (photos by Rana Husseini

## **Authorities explain** customs exemption procedures for taxis

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Department of Customs has defined the procedures for taxi owners to exchange their vehicles for custom-free cars or benefit from partial exemption from customs duties if they do not want to surrender their present vehicles.

The move to offer customs exemption for small public transport vehicles — regular taxis as well as service taxis runing on specific routes was approved by the government last month in line with Jordan's efforts to modernise its transport vehicles.

Many of Jordan's taxis and service cars are outmoded. Some of them are 30 years old. The condition and appearance of many of them are also bad despite the enforcement of 'a 'regulation that all vehicles should be produced at the licensing denartment for close inspections once a year, at the time of renewing the vehicle

- A circular sent by the Department of Customs to the concerned departments outlined the procedures that owners of taxis and service cars should follow to benefit from the government offer of customs duty exemption.

Under the procedures, the exemption is applicable only to cars with an engine capacity of not less than 1,600 cc. Cars with a passenger capacity of eight will be allowed to operate only on inter-city routes and to and from Queen Alia International Airport.

The circular spelled out the steps that owners should follow, from securing a first approval from the central licensing authorities to obtaining licence plates for

Owners should surrender their old cars to the garages of the Vehicle Licensing Department at the Amman customs centre near the Jordan Radio and Television station or at the Zarqa Free Zone. Those who surrender the vehicles, subject to certain parameters concerning model and other factors, will get total exemption from customs duties, sales tax and all

other charges. According to official sources, the government intends to auction off the surrendered cars after changing their licence plates to privately-owned plates. This has not been officially con-

firmed yet. Those who do not want to surrender their cars but would like to dispose of the vehicle after dismantling them would get a 50 per cent duties on the new car. Sales tax and other charges will also be applied. The dismancutting the chassis of the before it is returned to the owner should be carried out under the supervision of a technical committee representing the cus-toms and vehicle licensing

The technical committee will also be in charge of inspecting new vehicles and ensuring that they conform to the specifications laid down by the authorities. One ot the main condition is that the new car should be of a current year or the immediately preceding or following year's

In simple terms, it means that for a taxi to be registered for the first time in 1995 it should be of a 1995, 1994 or 1996 model.

Amid the move to modvehicles. Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh has sought to put to rest reports that the government was contemplating a reduction in customs cuties for all automobiles. The reports had depressed the car market in the country as many potential buyers opted to put off their purchases awaiting the expected reduction.

Mr. Jardaneh issued an official statement last week denying that the government was studying any such moves. However, the rumours have not died down. People who claim to have "inside sources" insist that a customs reduction for cars is in the

At the same time, official sources say that the rumours appeared to have stemmed from a series of proposals prepared by the Ministry of Finance and customs last year outlining various sets of options for possible reductions.

One of those proposals was adopted late last year and the government announced a 27 to 45 per cent reduction in customs duties on all auto-

## Israel and Israeli cousins welcome Rifkind's promotion

The Times of London The Daily Telegraph

A SENIOR Israeli diplomat forecast vesterday (July 7) that the appointment of Malcolm Rifkind, hailed in the Hebrew press, would improve Anglo-Israeli relations, already significantly closer over the past 12

(British) defence secretary expecting a tightening of the good relations we had with his predecessor. don, Moshe Raviv. told Yediot Ahronot. In an interview with the Tel Aviv daily, Mr. Rifkind claimed by the London

lewish Chronicle as the first Jewish foreign secretary since Rufus Isaacs, the Marquess of Reading, in 1931 — revealed that he had close relatives living in Israel and that he had made private trips to see them before his successful visit here as defence secretary. Mr. Rifkind is credited

by Israel as being the driv-ing force behind Britain's decision to end the arms embargo imposed after the invasion of Lebanon in 1982, thereby heralding a dramatic improvement in ties, including a visit by the Duke of Edinburgh, the first by a member of the

British royal family. Mr. Rifkind, who told Yediot that Britain's interests in the Arab World "cannot be ignored," has said that religion is "supremely irrelevant" to his political life.

That claim has not stopped Israeli officials gloating quietly that the Foreign Office, so long dimissed as a nest of Arabists, is in Jewish hands. It was unclear how the news would be received in the Arab World, although Mr. Rifkind made a favourable impression among Gulf Arab rulers, especially the emir of Kuwait, when he visited

in his previous position. Bernard Josephs, diplomatic correspondent of the Jewish Chronicle. claimed then that, due to the Middle East peace process, the promotion of a Jew to such a sensitive post would no longer have damaging repercussions for Britain's standing in the oil-



British Chief Secretary to the Treasury William Waldgrave, Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind (centre) and Defence Secretary Michael PortiHo (AFP photo)

rich Middle East. "There was a time when the appointment of a Jewish Foreign Secretary would have caused 'complications' with some of Britain's main Middle East allies," Mr. Josephs wrote. "Today it is clear that the Arab sensitivity on such issues is dramatically on the wane."

The promotion of Mr. Rifkind as the first Jewish foreign secretary in half a century has delighted his many relatives in Israel. where Britain has often been regarded as sympathetic to the Arab cause.

"I am very, very proud id happy for him," said lan Ben-Yehuda, a first cousin. "I knew that it has been

his ambition for a long time to become Foreign Secretary and now he has achieved it. "I heard about it on the

BBC World Service and I will be writing him a letter. I expect he is very busy these days." Mr. Ben-Yehuda, 44, a

computer programmer at Agrexco, Israel's agricultural export company, grew up with Mr. Rifkind in Edinburgh and moved to Israel in 1980 after marrying an Israeli.
"It was a small commun-

ity. There were just a few big families and we always mixed with the Jews."

Mr. Rifkind's relatives include early Jewish settlers who moved to British-ruled Palestine in the 1930s and lived through the subse-

quent Arab-Israeli wars. Abie Cohen, 76, an uncle who was born in Stockbort and joined an Israeli kibbutz in 1934; "I read about it in the newspapers this morning. It is a great feelissue that does not affect

somebody in your family has reached such a high position in government." Mr. Cohen, who operated and maintained farming equipment, served in the British army's Jewish Brigade during the World War II. He now lives in a moshav, or agricultural community, outside the Mediterranean port town of

ing. It's a great honour that

Annie Caspi, 79, an aunt who has yet to lose her Scottish lilt, moved to Tel Aviv at the height of Arab-Jewish rioting in 1936.

She said she remembered attending Mr. Rifkind's brit, the traditional Jewish circumcision ceremony held eight days after the birth of

"My phone has not stopped ringing with friends calling to congratulate me. she said. "I keep on telling everyone about it. I'm so proud of him. He is a really nice guy.

Unlike many of his relatives. Mr. Rifkind, 49, was not gripped by the Zionist pioneering spirit. He has. however, made several private trips to Israel and is a practising Jew.

Last December, he became the first defence secretary to visit Israel and was also seen as in-strumental in lifting the arms embargo against Israel, imposed after the invasion of Lebanon in

The Israeli press (July 6) portrayed the new foreign secretary as a friend of Israel. But there was also concern that his new job would stop him from expressing his sympathies openly, particularly among Foreign Office officials

deemed to be incorrigibly pro-Arab. However, Israeli officials

said British-Israeli relations had warmed under Douglas Hurd and that they expected little change.

Among Mr. Rifkind's relatives, Mr. Ben-Yehuda said: "Malcolm told me many years ago that his first public because they are the

British either way, he is for Mr. Rifkind is the first Foreign Secretary to be a practising Jew since the creation of the state of

people who voted for him.

But obviously if it is an

Israel almost 50 years ago. But he denied (July 6) that his religion was either at odds with the traditional Arabist culture of the Foreign Office or would affect

British foreign policy to-wards the Middle East.
""I think the Foreign Office represents the British interest; it does not represent the interest of other parts of the world," he said. "It is for the foreign secretary to identify the best way to advance those interests: That is the only relevant

Despite a pledge of evenhandedness in Britain's future attitude towards the Arab-Israeli peace process. Mr. Rifkind's appointment was widely welcomed by Jewish organisations in Bri-

The MP for Pentlands is known as a committed coreligionist and is a member of the Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation. Stuart Polak, director of

the Conservative Friends of Israel, said: "We are very pleased and hope he will continue to give all the support to the peace process that is necessary." The only fears expressed in some quarters were that Mr. Rifkind will be so conscious of his background that he will bend towards sympathy for the Palestinians rather than risk being accused of bias towards Israel, Mr. Rifkind was a founder member of the CFI when he entered Parliament in 1974, and during his previous stint as a junior minister at the Foreign Office in the mid-1980s took a particular interest in the plight of Jewish Soviet Union.

### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### Oman, Saudi Arabia sign border document

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia and Oman on Monday signed documents completing the demarcation of their joint borders of over 650 kilometres, Saudi officials said. Officials from both countries signed the final maps on the borders between the two states at a ceremony in the Saudi capital Riyadh. Saudi Arabia has desert frontiers with Yemen, Oman, the United Arabia has desert frontiers with Yemen, Oman, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar, Kuwait, Iraq and Jordan that have been largely undefined for many years. Saudi Arabia and Oman signed an agreement in 1990 for the demarcation of their joint borders of 657 kilometres. Lieutenant-General Mujab Bin Mohammad Al Qahtani, commander of the Saudi border guards, told the coramony the agreement took into guards, told the ceremony the agreement took into consideration "the regulating of border authorities between the two countries with the aim of strengthening cooperation between border guards." He said the agreement enshrined "the freedom of movement of beduin (nomadic) herdsmen" and provided them with help.

#### **Turkey boosts ties with Uzbek**

TASHKENT (R) — Turkey has agreed to deepen ties with Uzbekistan and boost investment during the first visit by Prime Minister Tansu Ciller to the Central Asian state. Ms. Ciller signed four bilateral agreements and opened a \$200 million Turkish Eximbank credit line on Sunday in a drive to develop links with the newly independent states of Central Asia, which, except for Tajikistan, have languages and cultures similar to Turkey's. Turkish President Suleyman Demirel visited Kazakhstan last month, and Foreign Minister Erdal Ingnu has in Turkmenistan over the weekend. "Turkey is the closest friendly country to Uzbekistan — they are not just friends but family," Uzbeki President Islam Karimov told a joint news conference on

#### **Woman wins walking competition in Iran**

TEHRAN (AFP) - A 71-year-old woman has won a walking competition for women in southern Iran, newspapers reported here Monday. Sadat Gol-Nushan came in first in the race in which a hundred other women and young girls participated in the city of Shiraz, they said. The youngest participant was five years old.

#### \$1b claim filed against Sudan after Mubarak attack

CAIRO (AFP) - An Egyptian lawyer is demanding \$1 billion in compensation from Sudanese President Omar Al Bashir for his alleged part in the attempted assassination of Egyptian leader Hosni Mubarak, judicial officials said Sunday. In a suit filed at a Cairo court Albert Alfred Shenouda said that "vehicles in the presidential motorcade were damaged" during the attack on June 26 in Addis Ababa. He said these were "goods belonging to the people," adding that the "Egyptian people were profoundly shocked by the attack ordered by the Sudanese regime." The money should go to thousands of Egyptians who lost their homes in torrential rains which fell in November in southern Egypt, he added. The trial will begin on Sept. 3, sources added. Mr. Mubarak has also blamed Sudan for masterminding the gun attack from which he escaped

#### Iran ends naval exercises in Gulf

NICOSIA (AP) - Iranian naval forces have ended eight days of large-scale tactical exercises in the Gulf involving attack craft and combat aircraft, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Monday. The agency said the final manoeuvres in the "Victory Six" war games were carried out Sunday over an area of 30,000 square kilometres in the northern part of the Gulf. Some 58,000 personnel from the navy and the Revolutionary Guards Corps' naval arm, as well as the air force, participated in the exercises. IRNA said the final manoeuvers were designed to test the capability of Iran's naval forces in conducting electronic warfare operations. The Iranians have been seeking to upgrade these capabilities amid a major rearmament programme was launched after the 1980-88 war with Iraq.

## JORDAN TELEVISION

PROGRAMME TWO
14:09 Captain Planet
14:30 Mantis
15:00 Road to Avonica
15:45 . Concerning the Future
16:00
17:09 French Programmes
19:00 News in French
19_30 News Headlines
19:35 Film. "Grewing Up"
20:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
21:15 Urban Angle
22:90 News in English
22:25 Death of Aportheid
23:50 New York Underenver
23:59
The Maid of Orleans (Act III)
00:45 Keeping Up Appearance

#### **PRAYER TIMES**

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1.:45							
16:22							
19:49							
21:22		-		•••	 ••		.1797

#### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifleh, Tcl. 810740 Assemblies of God Church, Tcl. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Approximation Tel. 637440.

De in Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrasuncta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Assumentation Tel.

Armeni 771331. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. 652526.

Bulletin supplied by the Depart-ment of Meteorology

peeted to prevail with a chance of scattered showers in the northern and central parts of the Kingdom Clouds are expected to appear at moderate to active in Agaba, winds will be northerly active and

Min./Max. temp. Amman .... ... ... ... 1427 

Anglican Church Tel. 630851. Tel. 628543. ism Orthodox Church Tel.

German-speaking Evangelical Con-gregation Tel. 684195 The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932 Church of Nazarene Tel.675691. The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

### WEATHER

Conf weather conditions are ex-

## Yesterday's high temperatures: Animan 2s. Aqaba 3s, Humidity readings: Amman 54 per cent. Aqaba 35 per cent.

Jordan Valley ...... 19 : 34

#### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

Midni boli	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Bassım Qaddumı	648633
Dr Fakhri Tayah	7564159
Dr. Yeusef Ahdo	404V[6
Dr. Yousef Al Faqib	7544333
First pharmacy	661912
Ferdows pharmacy	778336
Al Asema pharmacy	45,4164
Nairoukh pharmacy	
Al Salam pharmacy	
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Dr. Alt Al Omari	272032
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ZAROA:	
Dr. Samir Al Lawri	989601
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#### Khalifeh pharmacy ......... 985417 **EMERGENCIES**

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate
Reseuc 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 617101
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police
Traffic Police 896,390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information
(directory assistance) 12)
Overseas Calls (1/1/230)
Central Amman Telephone
Repairs 623101
Abdah Telephone Repairs 661101
Action receptions acpairs (4710)
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 7741 1
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority
815615
Electric Power
manual version

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### HOSPITALS

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Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shrucisani 664171/4
Shrucisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Mussher Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101/1 Amal Hospital ...... 674155 The Arah Center for Heart and ZARQA: Zarqa Govi, Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital (00)900560

ibn Sına Hospital ...... ( Al Hıkısa Modern Hospital Princess Basea Hospital ..... (02)275555 Greek Catholic Hospital ...... (02)272275 Iba Al Nafoes Hospital ....... (02)247100

Princess Haya Hospital ....... (03;31411)

#### JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA**

INTERNATIONAL

**AIRPORT** 

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

96:30 . . . Damascus, Paris (AF)

10:45 . ..... Carro (MS)

Al Sheikh, Monich (YP)

Damascus (AZ)

Ryadh (SV)

.... Aden (DY)

Amsterdum (KL)

ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) (Terminal 1) 95:10 Jakarla, Kuala Lumpur (RJ) 06:00 Damascus (RJ) 10:15 Ahu Dhahi, Al 'Ain (RJ) 10:15 Aqaha (RJ) 16:30 Berut (RJ) 10:36 ....... Doha (RJ) 10:45 ...... Muscal, Duhai (RJ) 17:35 ...... .. .. London (RJ) Defruit (RJ) Chicago, Amsterdam (RI)
.... Cairo, Akxandria (RI)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

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99:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)	5:00 p.m. every Sur
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## TRAIN

S:00 p.m. every Monday	Arr. Damascus
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5:00 p.m. every Sunday  MARKET PRICES  Upper/lower price in fils per kg.  Apple 7000 500  Apricet 600 / 400  Banana (Mukammar) 620  Cabbage 100 / 50  Carrot 200/120  Cauliflower 300/ 200  Cucumbers (large) 100 / 50  Eggplunt 160/ 80  Garlie 650/450  Garges 650/450  Lemon 1380/300  Marrow (large) 150 / 100	- · F · = • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
5:00 p.m. every Sunday  MARKET PRICES  Upper/lower price in fils per kg.  Apple 700/ 500  Apricot 600 / 400  Banana (Mukammar) 680  Banana (Mukammar) 680  Carbege 100 / 50  Cartot 200/120  Cauliflower 300/ 200  Cucumbers (large) 100 / 50  Cucumbers (small) 180 / 120  Eggplant 160/ 80  Garlic 650/450  Lemon 180/300  Marrow (large) 150 / 100  Marrow (large) 150 / 100	Arr. Amman
MARKET PRICES   Upper/lower price in fils per kg.   Apple   700/ 500   Apricot   600 / 400   Banana   600 / 400   Banana   600   620   Cabbage   100 / 50   Carrot   200/120   Cuuliflower   300/ 200   Cucumbers (large)   100 / 50   Cucumbers (small)   180 / 120   Eggplant   160/ 80   Garlie   650/450   Cucumbers   600/400   Cuc	5:00 p.m. every Sunday
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Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday chairs a meeting of liaison officers of Arab non-governmental organisations preparing to participate in the U.N. World Conference on women in Beijing (Petra photo)

## Princess Basma advises coordinated efforts for world conference on women

Held only eight weeks

before the Beijing confer-

ence this meeting is of para-

mount importance since it

would coordinate positions

and draw up a joint strategy

to be submitted to the con-

ference, the Princess said .

She called on participants

to draw up the work of com-

AMMAN (Petra) -- Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday urged Arab non-governmental organisations (NGO) taking part in the U.N. World Conference on Women in Bejing this September to adopt joint stands and pool their efforts in order to be an influential force at the international

document

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Addressing a meeting of liaison officers representing non-governmental organisations in 10 Arab states, the Princess said that the Beijing conference is of great importance to Arab women, and it is vital that the NGOs representing women

mittees taking part in workshops stemming from the conference and said that it was important for Arab delegations to coordinate their work not only before but also during the conference

Haifa Abu Ghazaleh, a member of the Jordanian delegation to the conference, align their potential and ha addressed the audience outmake their voice heard at the ... lining the purpose of the

Other speakers included head of U.N. agencies operating in Amman who said they were ready to back NGOs' efforts to serve women's objectives.

Later the Princess chaired the first session during which attention was drawn to the Jordanian document on women.

The meeting participants also reviewed a workshop in preparation for the Beijing conference which was held in Beirut last week.

The current three-day meeting is to prepare a draft plan for Arab organisations and to form teams to take part in the workshops of the World Conference on

## Yemeni vocational training team arrives for talks on systems structure

MMAN(Petra) - A Yemeni delegation led by Abdullah Jibari, head of the Vocational Training Establishment, arrived here Monday for a ten-day visit and discussion on cooperation in vocational training fields.

Accompanying Mr. Jibari are several Yemeni vocational training instructors who will attend training sessions at vocational training centres and meet with officials from the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) to discuss exchanges of

Mr. Jibari and his team will meet with VTC Director General Ali Nasrallah to discuss vocational training programmes, the planning of training courses, studies related to promoting vocational training in Yemen and other relevant topics.

During the visit the team members will visit vocational training centres around the Kingdom to study their programmes and activities . The team members will also take active part in two training courses for instruc-

One will involve the duties of the instructors, the structure of the vocational training system and guidance to trainees.

The other will focus on vocational training systems in Jordan, determining the needs of vocational training, and the local labour markets and their needs for skilled labour.

They will also make field trips to various VTC centres.

A VTC statement said that the Yemeni team's visit was part of the framework of an agreement for mutual coooperation in vocational and technical training signed by Yemen and Jordan which provided for the holding of training courses for instruc-

#### WHAT'S GOING ON

#### SEMINAR

"The Arab Book -- Problems and Horizon," (in Arabic) with the participation of Maher Kayali, Fathi Al Bis, and Ilias Farkouh at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art at 7:00 p.m.

#### **NEWS**

ABC News Highlights and the McNeil Lehrer News Hour at the American Center

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

Paintings by Muhannad Bushnaq at Balqa Art Gallery in Fuheis.

Paintings by Adnan Yahyah at Darat Al Funun Jabal Weibdeh.

\*Paintings by Bernadette Gerges and Rita Gerges entitled "Lebanon Tomorrow," at the Royal Cultural Centre.

\*Paintings by Jordanian Artist Muhammad Majali at the Phoenix Gallery of Culture and Arts, Garden Street

\*Works by Iraqi artist Tahija Hakim at Ab'ad Art Gallery.

Exhibition demonstrating the development of cinema over the past century at the French Cultural Centre.

\*Works by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at Orfali Gallery.

## Jordan, Egypt sign accord to study feasibility of creating free trade zone

AMMAN (J.T.) - Jordan and Egypt Monday signed a trade protocol which provides for a feasibility study for the creation of a free trade zone between them.

A statement following the signing ceremony at the Ministry of Industry and Trade said that the free zone was essential in order to help the two countries cope with the requirements of new world developments in international economic and trade operations.

Under the terms of the protocol, which was signed by Minister of Industry and Trade Ali Abul Ragheb and his Egyptian counterpart, **Mahmoud** Mohammad Mahmoud, the two countries have two months to prepare the study for the free zone.

The study will then be sub-, mitted to technical committees in the two countries before the settlement of a final agreement to be referred to the Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee for approval. --

The protocol provides for preferential treatment in trade and economic cooperation between Egypt and Jordan, especially through the proposed free zone. The protocol also reaffirms the continuation of the former trade agreement between the two countries until it expires in October this year.

Upon signing the protocol, Mr. Abul Ragheb said that the accord constitutes one more step along the way for joint Arab action and, in particular, for economic integration between Jordan and

Mr. Abul Ragheb said that bilateral relations between both countries were characterised by close cooperation and that progress was steadily being made in the interest of their peoples.

Egyptian and Jordanian ministers are co-chairing a three-day meeting of the Jordanian-Egyptian economic committee to discuss a wide range of topics on bilateral economic and trade coopera-Mr. Abul Ragheb said dis-

cussions with Mr. Mahmoud revolved around the coordination of positions for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) summit, due to convene here in October, saying that further talks will take place to finalise the details in the next few weeks.

Mahmoud, who Mr. arrived here at the head of his team Sunday evening, described the protocol as the start of a new trend in closer economic cooperation

between Cairo and Amman. Strong relations between the two countries will serve as a good example to other Arab states, and the new protocol was certain to remove obstacles to free trade, the Egyptian minister

Following the signing of the protocol the two ministers called on Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, to brief him on the provisions of the accord.

Also Monday Mr. Mah-



Minister of Industry and Trade Ali Abul Ragheb and visiting Egyptian Minister of Trade Mahmoud Mohammad Mahmoud Monday sign a trade protocol (Petra photo)

mond and his team called at to Egyptian territories, the Amman Chamber of Industry where they met with its president Khaldoun Abu Hassan and discussed ways to bolster trade and economic ties between the private sectors of Egypt and

Mr. Abu Hassan was quoted as suggesting that the private sectors launch joint projects such as processing agricultural products, diversifying the national goods traded between the two countries, facilitating the passage of Jordanian trucks reducing fees levied on vehicles carrying national products and speeding up the process of granting letters of credit for import-export operations.

Mr. Abu Hassan also demanded that Jordan and Egypt exempt exhanged products from at least two thirds of the customs duty normally levied on them and suggested that the two countries cancel protocols that provide for certain products to be exempted from customs duty on and instead

open the two markets for direct and free exchanges of

Mr. Abu Hassan also urged Egypt to help end the sanctions on Iraq and the partial sanctions imposed on Libya and Sudan and called on Cairo to participate in the coming MENA economic summit due in October.

Noting that Egypt will participate actively in the summit, Mr. Mahmoud said that the Arab countries should seriously contemplate the idea of reviving the Arab

## Security court sets date for ruling on 'Arab Afghans' case

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN' The State Security Court on Monday set July 19 for issuing its ruling on a case involving the socalled Arab Afghans after concluding a review of verdicts it issued in December.

In its 20-minute session on Monday, the three-member bench, presided over by Brigadier Hafez Amin, received a report from prison authorities concerning one of the 18 convicts in the case and announced the date for the ruling.

The prison report was sought by the court to establish the status of the convict, who was under 18 years of age when he was sentenced

The ruling on July 19

from the Court of Cassation that the State Security Court review the Dec. 16 verdicts in the case, which stemmed from two bomb blasts and other attempted sabotage at public places in late 1993 and early 1994.

The explosions took place at cinema theatres showing pornographic movies. Also targeted in a foiled bomb attack was a store selling

The prosecution described the accused as Muslim zealots who wanted to eliminate "moral corruption" from the society.

Eighteen people were convicted of "conspiracy to commit terrorist attacks" and "illegal possession of weapons and explosives" in the case after a four-month absentia, were sentenced to retried a Saudi national. death, and seven were given jail terms ranging from 7.5 years to 20 years at hard labour. Seven others were cleared of all charges.

The Court of Cassation, which made an automatic review of the case in line with new regulations adopted in 1992, asked that the State Security Court take into account the testimonies of three witnesses that the court had ignored while issuing the verdicts.

It also asked that the status of the minor convict also be established.

The State Security Court began the review in May and heard the three witnesses one security officer and two

Parallel to the review of comes in line with an order trial; 11, including three in the verdicts, the court also

Mohammad Khalifa, who was among the three sentenced in absentia.

Khalifa surrendered to the authorities in May and was entitled to a retrial under Jordanian laws that provide for a retrial for anyone who is sentenced in absentia if he or she surrenders to the authorities or is arrested.

The other two sentenced in absentia, a Jordanian and an Omani, remain fugitive.

Khalifa, who used to run a religious school in the Philippines, is accused of "conspiring to commit ter-rorist acts" on the basis of a statement by another defendant who said the Saudi had offered to "finance" a subversive group in Jordan.

In the Khalifa case, the court heard the defendant rejecting the charge and entering a plea of innocence. Three witnesses, supported by bank account statements, testified in court on how an amount of \$4,500 transferred by Khalifa to an account in Jordan was spent on assigning Koranic teach-

the Philippines. Khalifa opted to surrender himself to Jordanian authorities after he was arrested in the U.S. in mid-December on charges of falsifying his visa application.

ers to the Soviet Union and

He was entitled to a trial by a U.S. immigration court, but the Saudi, speaking through his lawyers, said he did not think he would get a fair trial in the U.S., particularly after anti-Arab sentiments were whipped up by the Okhlahoma bombing in

late April.

## RSCN seeks World Bank loan for Dana wildlife reserve

The report to the World

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) is seeking assistance from the World Bank to finance its projects for the conservation of Jordanian wildlife and nature reserves.

A society team led by Khaled Irani, head of the Wildlife Reserves department, left Amman for Washington, D.C. Monday saying that the talks aim at securing a \$3 million loan for the society's Dana Wildlife Reserve near the southern

Mr. Irani\_was quoted by the Jordan News Agency. Petra, as saying that the three-day meeting with the World Bank will focus on the presentation of a general report about the progress of a three-year scheme for the development of the Dana

One-and-a-half years have elapsed since the start of the project, and the \$3 million are needed to finance the rest of the project in the next year and a half, said Mr.

Bank on Dana will also detail the activities of the Dana society which includes guiding the local community in the promotion of incomegenerating projects such as developing farming, organ-ising tourism activities, extending aid to local resi-

said Mr. Irani. The team will also discuss the society's plans for establishing more wildlife reserves in the Kingdom,

dents in handicraft needs,

regulating the hunting of animals and birds according to an organised scheme, and introducing measures to safeguard several other natural resources, Mr. Irani The Dana Wildlife

Reserve was established on 250 square kilometres of land south of Tafileh and aims at safeguarding the biological diversity of the area and involving the local residents in socio-economic activities, according to the

Mr. Irani said that the RSCN is also in the process of creating a centre for training the local residents in handicrafts to be sold to tourists, and to house a museum and a laboratory for researchers conducting environmental studies. He said that according to plans, the society will also establish a tourism camp to house visitors to the reserve. The RSCN now runs six wildlife reserves: the Azraq, Shaumari, Wadi Mujib, Zubia, Dana and Rum reserves.

#### \$7.2m U. S. grant to improve Sudan denies Egyptian charge

Continued from page 12)

groups a platform.
Relations between Cairo

and Khartoum, already strained since Sudan's Islamic regime came to power in 1989, have plunged since Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak accused Sudan of masterminding a bid to kill him on June 26.

But Dr. Abdul Meguid said, Egypt and Sudan should first try to sort the issue out between themselves.

Mr. Meguid told reportes Sudanese Ambassador Ahmad Al Kordfani had come to see him and proposed the league show it was willing to help narrow the gap between Cairo and Khar-

"These subjects should first be treated at the bilateral level," added the secretarygeneral, who is Egyptian. The Egyptian government

also says that mediation is not

necessary, though it has pre-

viously rebuffed Sudanese attempts to arrange highlevel meetings.

Mr. Musa told reporters that the Sudanese govern-ment had to show it had nothing to do with acts of violence in neighbouring Mr. Musa said: "There is

consensus that there is a link between the Sudanese govemment or Sudanese policy and signs of the use of violence in a number of countries. This must stop.

"Egypt hopes that the Sudanese government will take measures which can help us over the present crisis and that these measures will prove there is no link between the Sudanese government and these events, either

in the past or from now on." Asked about reports of the arrest of Egyptian engineers working for a building company in Khartoum, Mr. Musa said such steps should be

## tourist facilities, site communities Amman (J.T.) -- Minister of Planning Rima Khalaf

Huneidi and U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Wesley W. Egan Monday signed an agreement granting Jordan an additional \$7.2 million for the five-year Cultural Environmental Resources Management (CERM) Project, a U.S.

statement said. Signed at the Ministry of Planning, the agreement brings the U.S. government's contribution to \$14.8 million out of a total of \$16 million, the statement said.

Information Service (USIS)

The first tranche of \$7.6 million was granted in Sep-

tember 1994. The agreement was also signed by William T. Oliver, Director of the U.S. Agency for International Develop-

ment (USAID) in Jordan.

The CERM Project, which will be implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities and several non-governmental organisations, aims at helping to preserve specific cultural and archaeological sites in Jordan and at improving the services offered to visitors of these sites, according to the state-

It will also ensure that the local communities at these sites benefit from the new economic opportunities that will be generated by the increased number of visitors, the statement added.



Rima Khalaf Huneidi

The first phase of the project will benefit the sites of Petra, the Amman Citadel and Madaba. Other sites will be developed during the second phase of the project. the statement said.

Third-century

off Croatia

shipwreck found

ZAGREB (AFP) — Croatian archaeologists have disc-

overed the remains of a

Mauritian vessel which was

shipwrecked off the Croatian

island of Hvar as long ago as

the third century, the daily

Vechernji List reported Sun-

day. The vessel, submerged in around 25 metres of water

in a bay on the north of the

island off the Croatian port of

Split, was first discovered by

fishermen several months

ago. It is believed to be one

of the few underwater

archeological sites near

Croatia which has not been

plundered by vandals.

Marinko Petric, the official in

charge of the recovery, said

the shipwrecked vessel was

carrying some 80 amphoras

as well as ceramic and mosaic

pieces which probably deco-

## **Burma opposition leader freed**

RANGOON (AP) — Burmese pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi was freed from House Arrest Monday. days before completing her sixth years of detention, official sources said.

Col. Kyaw Win, the deputy intelligence chief, went to Mrs. Suu Kyi's lake-side residence on University Avenue at 4 p.m. (0730 GMT) and told her of the military government's decision to lift the restriction order without preconditions, a source said.

"At her request, guards are still kept at her house but she is an ordinary citizen." said the source, who deman-

ded anonymity.
The United States, the European Union and other Western governments have continually demanded the re-lease of Mrs. Suu Kyi, winner of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize for her non-violent struggles for democracy in Burma.

The Burmese government has eased up in recent years and made efforts to break its international isolation, but Mrs. Suu Kyi's release surprised many foreign analysts. They said the authorities appeared to be solidifying their control over the country and, if freed. Mrs. Suu Kyi could only spell trouble since she has remained steadfastly committed to her cause even in detention.

Just last week, the junta had indicated it did not plan to release Mrs. Suu Kyi when she completed her sentence on July 19.

'The rights of 45 million people in the country are more important than the



Aung San Suu Kyi

rights of an individual." Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt said in an apparent reference to Mrs.

This impoverished South East Asian nation of 45 million people has been ruled by Socialist and military autocrats for decades, and has been torn not only by prodemocratic dissent but also armed ethnic minority guerrilla groups seeking greater autonomy. Amnesty International and other human rights group often have accused the current government of widespread human rights abuses.

Mrs. Suu Kyi, 50, led the National League for De-mocracy (NLD), which won a landslide victory in general elections in 1990 but was not allowed by the military to rule. She had challenged the military after soldiers fatally shot hundreds of people to quell a 1988 mass uprising against autocratic rule. She advocated non-violent resistance, invoking the name of India's Mohandas Gándhi and her own father. Burmese independence leader Aung

San.
The military junta put her under house arrest on July 20. 1989, under a security law for allegedly inciting unrest. Her detention was extended every 180 days under the law.

With the lifting of the restriction order. Mrs. Suu Kyi is allowed to go anywhere and meet anyone just like an ordinary citizen as long as she does not violate any laws, the sources said Monday.

No one apart from Mrs. Suu Kyi's immediate family had been allowed to visit her until U.S. Congressman Bill Richardson did so in February 1994. In another softening of its stand, government leaders met with Mrs. Suu Kyi for political dialogue at least twice, starting last September. Details of the talks have not been disclosed.

The government had said she could walk free anytime as long as she left the country, but she refused. The government said it would not cede power to a civilian administration until completion of the drafting of a new constitution but would not give a

In a statement which her husband, British academic Michael Aris, took out in January, Mrs. Suu Kyi said she would never cut a secret

deal for her release.

She wrote: "I adhere to the principle of accountability and consider myself at all times bound by the democratic duty... to be guide by the aspirations of those engaged in the movement to establish a truly democratic political. system in Burma. Mr. Aris, a professor at

Oxford University, and their two sons live in England. Burma's military rulers have suppressed virtually all outward dissent, but even isolated from the outside world, Mrs. Suu Kyi re-mained the symbol heart of the pro-democracy movement. In Burma, she was mentioned in reverential whispers as "the lady."

Cuban President Fidel Castro holds his vote as he leaves a voting booth at a local voting bureau moments before casting his vote in

tions. Cuban authorities expect that 97 per cent of the some 7.5 million Cubans registered to vote will go to the polls to elect 11,292

## Castro sees recovery as Cubans vote in local government elections

HAVANA (R) — Cuban President Fidel Castro, voting in local government elec-tions Sunday, said Cuba is recovering from the reces-sion that has gripped it since the collapse of its major trading partner, the former Soviet Union.

"The spirit (of the nation) is better this year," Mr. Castro said after casting his vote in Havana's Vedado district. "A certain recovery is be-

ginning, within the limits of what is possible," be said, though he acknowledged conditions on the Communist-ruled Caribbean island remained difficult. Cuba has been trying to

haul its sugar-exporting, oil importing economy out of a five-year slump that followed the 1991 break-up of the former Soviet Union, a major importer of Cuban raw sugar and supplier of fuel and ferti-

The country has had its lowest sugar harvest in more than 50 years, but Cuban officials point to increased food and nickel production and improvements in other goods and services as signs that the economy is recover-

ing.
Mr. Castro voted Sunday in nationwide municipal elections, which the authorities said would strengthen the island's one-party Communist system against external threats.

More than seven million voters were registered for the polls, which were to elect 14,229 delegates to sit on 164 municipal assemblies.

Sunday's fine weather favoured a high turnout and early returns appeared to support official predictions that more than 90 per cent of the electorate would cast

Mr. Castro reaffirmed his own well-known distaste for Western-style multi-party, free-market democracy, which he described as "the democracy of the rich."

"The consumer society is not the formula... the democracy of capitalism is not the formula," he said. The Municipal Assemblies

of People's Power, whose members were elected Sunday, are the lowest tier of Cuba's single-party system, in which the ruling Communist Party is the only legally recognised political party.

Voting is not obligatory, but Cuban leaders and the state media have presented it as a patriotic duty, particularly at a time when Cuba faces moves in the U.S. Congress. to tighten a 33-year U.S. trade embargo against the island.

National Assembly President Ricardo Alarcon criticised the embargo-tightening moves, sponsored by U.S. Senator Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina, and Indiana Republican Con-

gressman Dan Burton. "This will be the clearest, strongest and firmest way for U.S. Cubans to tell Messrs. Burton and Helms and everyone else that here in Cuba it is we who decide, we who elect and we who create our own laws and nobody else," Mr. Alarcon said.

Mr. Castro said Sunday that Cuba's growing contact with capitalism had boosted both bribery and corruption.

Mr. Castro said that in 30 years of trade with the former Soviet Bioc he could not remember a single case of brib-

"But through our contact with capitalism, many of these kind of phenomena are beginning to appear," he told reporters. There are many people

who try... to bribe, to corrupt, all that kind of thing," Mr. Castro continued. These were "attitudes that clash with the spirit of the revolution and morality."

#### rated the ship's galley. Teenage Sri Lankan plucks nuts in the raw

COLOMBO (R) — An 18-year-old Sri Lankan coconut plucker has refused to wear a stitch of clothing since the day he was born. The Island newspaper said Saturday. R.M. Prematilleka, from the village of Madagama, 90 6 miles (145 km) east of Colombo, no sooner tries to cover up and his whole body starts to itch, the newspaper said, but his allergy has not stopped him plucking nuts. Prematilleka, who continues to live in the raw, is an expert in plucking coconuts and arecanuts (betel nuts) and has also cultivated a farm," the newspaper said. His mother refused to allow photographs to be taken of

#### Moose on the loose steals boy's swingset

ALINGSAAS, Sweden (AFP) - Little Rasmus Nilsson of Sweden woke up one day last week to find his swingset missing from the backyard, stolen not by a thief, but by a moose, the daily Aliogsass: Tidning said. Police in this small town in. southwestern Sweden at first suspected a cruel thief had stolen the boy's swingset. But then they noticed a trail of large hoof prints showing where the 50-kilogramme (110-pound) iron construction had been dragged away, the paper said. The moose obviously searching for goodies in the family garden, had gotten tangled in the swingset's nylon wires and wrestled with it before freeing itself in a stream 800 metres away, where the mangled bars were found.

### Gales kill 300

BEIJING (R) - Gales and rainstorms have killed more than 300 egrets in China's eastern Shandong province and destroyed thousandyear-old cypresses. Xinhua News Agency said Saturday. No human casualties were reported. More than 300 egrets were killed when gales and rainstorms ripped through cypresses at the famous confucius temple in Qufu Saturday. Xinhua said. Eighteen trees were destroved, it said. Twenty-two others were damaged.

#### island destined to sink quickly AUCKLAND (AFP)

Naming the latest Pacific is-

#### 'Mao allowed Dalai Lama to flee Tibet BELIING (R) - Chairman cadres and soldiers in Tibet and was crushed with heavy

Mao Tsetung secretly opened the way for the dramatic mountain escape to India by Tibet's god-king, the Dalai Lama, after an abortive uprising against Chinese rule in 1959, a newspaper said Mon-

The order by the late Chinese leader to allow the Dalai Lama to flee was an historic secret that could only now be revealed, more than 35 years later, the official China Youth Daily said.

Chinese soldiers had the Tibetan leader and his retinue in their gunsights when he crossed a river during his night escape from the Tibe-tan capital, Lhasa, but did not open fire because they had no orders to stop him,

they were forbidden to stop the Dalai Lama or his followers, even if they tried to leave the country during the abortive uprising in March, 1959.

Mao's decision was a tactical move to divide Tibet's traditional upper-class rulers and to identify those who would support Beijing, the newspaper said.

An official of the Tibetan government said by telephone from Lhasa he was unable to comment since the region's current leaders were all too young to know enough about the uprising.
The Dalai Lama and tens

of thousands of Tibetans fled to India during and after the armed uprising that followed the newspaper said. almost nine years of Chinese Mao told Communist military occupation of Tibet loss of life. Since his hurried escape on

horseback and on foot across some of the world's highest mountains, the Dalai Lama has lived in exile in India from where he has waged an international campaign for Tibetan political autonomy.

Beijing, which has worked to isolate the Dalai Lama diplomatically, has became embroiled in a dispute with him over the selection of a successor to the late Panchen Lama, Tibet's second-most senior religious and political leader.

The Dalai Lama, a Nobel Peace Prize-winner, is widely revered in Tibet, where Chinese control has been repeatedly challenged by demonstrations aimed at restoring independence.

## EU to open debate on border controls

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EU) Commission, in a move bound to upset Eurosceptical Britain, will propose Wednesday that internal border check be scrapped at the

end of 1996. Under a plan drawn up by Italian Commissioner Mario Monti. EU governments would agree to drop border controls so long as they were satisfied with safeguards against drug smuggling, illegal migration and other crime.

EU officials said the only resistance in the 20-member EU executive has come from Britain's two commissioners, Sir Leon Brittan and Neil Kinnock, "All the others are OK," one said.

The EU has fulfilled most of its single-market aims. allowing free flow of goods. services and capital since January 1993. But member making life too easy for organised crime. Mr. Monti's attitude is that

existing, EU agreements. such as the External Borders Convention, the Dublin Convention on Asylum and a joint computer system, would be sufficient defence against criminals if governments used

Officials sometimes blame a general lack of confidence citizens feel in the EU on the irritation travellers feel when showing their passports for the umpteenth time.

But Britain, fearing the end of passport checks would sap its sovereignty and allow the island to be invaded by rabid cats, dogs and rabbits, has said it will strongly oppose any move to drop border controls.

free movement - the sevennation Schengen Accord

member, retaliated by rein-French border. The other members are Belgium. Germany, the Netherlands, Por-

France argued that there were holes in the way the accord had been applied. allowing drug trafficking and illegal immigration.

looked more like a political move by the new Chirac administration prompted by the rise of the antiimmigration National Front. EU officials said that the

The decision must be taken by EU governments unani-

fell well short of expectations when France decided last month to continue passport checks.

Luxembourg, another troducing checks on the tugal and Spain.

Critics said the decision

plan to drop borders controls

throughout the 15-nation EU would contain the same kind of safeguard clause invoked

## Gingrich calls for diplomatic ties with Taiwan

WASHINGTON (AP) -The United States should establish diplomatic ties with Taiwan "regardless of what happens" to its relations with China, one of America's most powerful politician says.

The United States should get it over with" and recognise Taiwan because "every time we do anything minor on behalf of Taiwan, it leads to a big blowup with China and they overreact," Rep. Newt Gingrich, speaker of the House of Representatives, said on American tele-

"I think we are better off to get that behind us," he

said Sunday.

The Beijing government contends that it is the only true representative of the Chinese people and has severed ties with several Latin American and African countries that, after receiving aid from Taiwan, recognised the Taipei government.

The sensitivity of the Beijing leaders was apparent recently when they strongly protested the Clinton administration's decision to allow Taiwan's President Lee Teng-Hui to make a private visit to the United States.

Commenting on CBS' Face The Nation news interview show, the Republican from Georgia said Washington should "move to recognise Taiwan as a free country' and "tell the Chinese they would have to live with the reality that the people of Taiwan are a free people."

## Hosokawa 'is ready' for comeback TOKYO (AP) — Former Prime Minister Morihiro

Hosokawa ended a year of acknowledged he has given old job back. The comeback announce-

ment marked the return of the Hosokawa of old - the sharp-tongued foe of politicsas-usual - instead of the wavering leader that Japan got to know during his tempestuous eight-month administration. In August 1993, Mr. Hoso-

kawa led a coalition that ended the 38-year dominance of the conservative Liberal Democratic Party, He achieved a few key reforms, including an overhaul of Japan's election system, but resigned in April 1994 with his ruling coalition in dis-

Since stepping down, Mr. Hosokawa has stayed on the sidelines, letting suspicions about his personal finances - a factor in his resignation - slip out of the limelight in the absence of decisive evidence. In his appearance Monday

at the Foreign Correspon-

dents' Club of Japan, Mr. Hosokawa had little to say about his resignation but public reticence Monday and plenty of harsh words for the current government, dominated again Democrats.

The gist of Mr. Hosokawa's message was virtually the same as it was three years ago when he first stepped on to the national stage by forming the reformist Japan New

Bureaucrats, he said, are stifling the economy with over-regulation, while politiclass are only interested in raking in special-interest money.

"It's as if the East German minister has taken over even though the Berlin Wall has fallen," he said. "We need to destroy the wall again." Mr. Hosokawa pitched

himself as the political best qualified to handle American demands for change in Japan, saving that if he had been prime minister during the recent auto trade dispute he would have forced hureaucrats to repeal red tape that shuts out U.S. auto parts. Mr. Hosokawa, 57, is a

member of the leading hold.

opposition New Frontier Party but he showed little enthusiasm for his allies. Referring to the campaign

for July 23 elections to parlia-Hosokawa said: Both the ruling and opposition parties are wearing headbands and white gloves, going around with their loudspeaker cars - all of Japan's most unhip things. "Politicians need to take

note that people are fed up with that kind of thing," he He said he wanted to form

an "alliance for a new deal" of 30 to 50 reformist legislators within the New Frontier Party, and called on Japanese to select a leader who 'understands the age."

Asked whether he himself had any interest in the prime ministership, Mr. Hosokawa did his best to look embarrassed by the question, smiling shyly and turning red. He mumbled that he

doesn't think about the subject "very much" but added that he had no way of guessing what his future might

## House protest over U.S. ties

Vietnamese-Americans pounded the pavement in front of the White House Sunday protesting the expected normalisation of U.S. relations with Hanoi. The demonstration topped

off a weekend of heated debate on the issue here which promised to spill over into Congress this week as senators and representatives split About 100 protesters rang-

with Hanoi? No! No! No!" The group was reacting to news reports that President

Bill Clinton wax expected to

announce the normalisation

of relations with the Com-

munist regime in Vietnam

some time this week.

would come shortly after the 20th anniversary of the fall of South Vietnam, would follow the U.S. administration's lifting of its economic embargo 1994

came out in favour of normalisation Sunday, "We need a strong Viet-

nam in the region as a coun-

terweight to what is a disturb-

ing pattern of behaviour on

the part of the Chinese." he

said during a televised inter-

But California Republican Representative Duncan Hunter said he would propose a resolution in Congress saving Mr. Clinton "should not recognise Vietnam or deliver any of the benefits that attend that recognition: a very simple resolution." he

Mr. Hunter said recognition should be withheld "until the North Vietnamese give us total access to all of their prison records and to travel and inspection of all areas of Vietnam, including all of

Ouven Le, executive presithree grounds.

The first was the fate of

U.S. prisoners of war and

soldiers missing in action

which "have not been prop-

erly accounted for," he said.

WASHINGTON (R) - U.S.scientists called on their government Monday to start work now to dispose of plutonium from dismuntled nuclear weapons, saying storing it indefinitely would pose security risks and send the

wrong political signal. In a report requested by the Clinton administration, a panel from the private National Academy of Sciences (NAS) proposed that two different ways of rendering the highly toxic substance less dangerous should be developed at the same time.

The two options chosen by the seven-member panel were to use the plutonium as fuel to generate electricity in existing nuclear power stations, and to embed it in glass logs along with other radioactive waste. The United States and

Russia each expect to be

faced by about 50 metric ton-

nes of plutonium from at

least 20,000 warheads being

eliminated under strategic

arms agreements they have

signed in the last four years. The plutonium is currently being stored at heavily guarded dismantlement sites near Amarillo, Texas, and at several places in Russia. The NAS report said that keeping it there indefinitely

possessor state or stolen by It would also send "negative political signals for nonproliferation and arms reduction, suggesting that the current arms reductions could be reversed at any time," said

energy Professor John Hol-Much of the 418-page re-port, Management And Disposition Of Excess Weapons Plutonium, analysed ways of dealing with the metal, a key

the panel led by Berkeley

The report concluded that by combining weapons-grade plutonium with uranium in so-called mixed oxide fuel. it

power at virtually any of the 100 operating light-water reactors in the United States. The residue from a single usage would be no more dangerous than other spent

It said another option was to encase the plutonium in glass loss, a process known as vitrification that is currently being developed to deal with other defence wastes. The logs would ultimately be

metric tonnes of plutonium. and cost between \$500 million and \$5 billion depending on the technologies chosen, the report said.

cesses might be necessary. Since it is crucial that at least one of these options succeed, since time is of the essence, and since the costs of pursuing both in parallel are modest in relation to the security stakes, we recommend that project-oriented options, in parallel, at once," said

out suitable reactors, talk to nuclear plant owners and examine technical problems in vitnfication.

The study also said it was important to work in parallel with Russia, where political and economic uncertainties could east doubt over Mos-

It suggested joint ventures, financial aid, negotiated agreements or simply a purchase of Russian plutonium — as has already happened with highly enriched uranium, another bomb ingredient - might be needed.

## egrets in China

## New Tongan

land might be a waste of time as it is likely to disappear within a couple of years just as it has done at least six times this century. New Zealand geologist Brad Johnson believes. The island burst out of the Metis Shoal near the Vava'u Group of islands in Tonga. 2,600 kilometres (1.612 miles) northeast of here, on June 6. As it coincided with the Rugby World Cup there were calls to name it after All Black winger sensation Jonah Lomu who was born in Tonga, but he may be too late as the "is-land" has already been the lava dome has collapsed," Mr. Johnson said.

## states hesitate to let citizens The EU's first step into Vietnamese-Americans stage White

WASHINGTON (AFP) -

on the issue. ing from old men to young girls carried candles and shouted across Pennsylvania Avenue towards the presidential mansion — "Human rights for Vietnam, Yes! Yes! Yes!" "It is time to normalise

"Vietnam is a country of emerging importance in South East Asia, certainly an important country economically for the United States and other countries." State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said Friday.

on Vietnam in Februrary Arizona Republican Senator John McCain, a former U.S. Navy pilot who spent five and a half years at a prisoner in North Vietnam.

The announcement, which told CNN television.

> their prisons." dent of the Vietnamese Community of Washington DC. Maryland and Virginia and leader of the protest, spoke out against normalisation on

Scientists urge U.S. to dispose of plutonium

would lead to "substantial risks" such as being diverted into new weapons by the

fissile ingredient of nuclear

could be used to generate activities be initiated on both

buried underground. Both processes would take 20-30 years to dispose of 50

The panel said both pro-

it said the Department of Energy should assign resources to both options, seek

The report rejected other options, such as running the plutonium repeatedly through power stations until it was all used up. It said this proposal would take too

cow's commitment to disposing of its plutonium.

named several tires. Indeed Mr. Johnson belie 's it is the same island that in 1976 was named by King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV as Lateiki Island. Two years after it was named, it disappeared. Earlier this month a Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) Orion flew over the reincarnated island and estimated it was about 84,000 square metres (903,000 square feet) and, after initially rising to 54 metres (178 feet) above sea level, has now slipped back to 45 metres (148 feet). "Part of

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LY 11, 1995

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ntury

A resident of Wei Dihu town of Hunan province routs a boat carrying his belongings after heavy flooding. The town with a population of 20,000 has seen more then two hundreds people die due to flooding. Destruction caused by the flood

in Southern China is estimated at more than \$4 billion affecting 100 million people and leaving 1,179 dead (AFP

## Flooding causes havoc on rail lines in China

BEIJING (Agencies) — Severe flooding in south China has interrupted train service for up to 14 days and delayed train transport for a total of more than 1,000 hours, the official press reported Mon-

Nearly 1,200 people have already died in heavy flooding that has hit 10 southern provinces. But government officials in most of the 10 provinces said Monday that rains had stopped or slowed and that flood waters were under control or receding.

The Civil Affairs Ministry's Disaster Relief Department said Monday that it had no new figures to update Friday's death toll of 1,179.

Flooding has submerged railroad tracks, caused landslides and washed away track beds in 110 places in the six provinces that are under the administration of the Shanghai Railway Bureau, Shanghai papers reported. Service was interrupted in 40 of those places, delaying service for a total of 1,002

Service has not been restored in two places. A bridge across the Yangtze River, China's longest, was closed June 26 when water levels exceeded the danger zone.

On July 1, the railway closed the Xiangjiu line near the city of Jiujiang, Jiangri province, when water in the Bali Lake threatened to spill over dikes. Railway workers were mobilised to build dikes along the tracks to protect them from flood waters, the

Summer flooding hits southern China every year, but unusually heavy rains this year have caused water levels to rise in nearly all rivers and

The Yangtze River swelled to levels not seen in more than 45 years along many towns in central Hubei and neighbouring Anhui pro-

Taiwan used devastating floods in China to try to an organisation styled as unrepair strained relations official but which in fact floods in China to try to Monday, offering its condolences and calling for relief funds for its Communist arch-

Two private organisations have donated some \$400,000 in medicine and other relief for a flood which has killed nearly 1,200 people and injured more than 26,000 in 10 Chinese provinces.

Relations were badly strained in June by protests from Beijing, which tries to isolate Taiwan diplomatically, over a private visit to the United States by Taiwan President Lee Teng-Hui.

China postponed highlevel talks and a series of lower-level exchanges after Mr. Lee's visit, the first by a serving Taiwan president to the United States, which had excluded such visits as a matter of policy.

It its attempt to repair relations, Taiwan used its straits Mr. Shih said.

speaks with the government's voice, to stress deep concern over the floods in China.

exchange Foundation (SEF).

"This morning we sent a letter to the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits (ARATS) to express our deep concern, and to commission the ARATS to present our condolences to the people who are suffering," Mr. Shin Chi-Ping, SEF's deputy secretary-general, told Reporters. Mr. Shin Chi-Ping,

ARATS is China's equivalent of the SEF, also unofficial in name but actually representing Beijing.

"We are happy to see peo-ple in Taiwan donate money to help mainland people suf-fering in the floods," Mr. Shih added.

"All these show our very friendly responses and we hope the two sides can maintain very good relations."

## Sri Lankan war escalates as rebels offer stiff resistance

COLOMBO (AFP) — Fierce battles, sometimes hand-tohand, erupted in northern Sri Lanka Monday as Tamil rebels offered stiff resistance to a major military advance, military officials here said.

Six soldiers were killed and 71 wounded in the military's biggest campaign ever in the Jaffna peninsula, where the rebels maintain a de facto separate state, officials said.

The terrorists are coming towards us. Our objective is to kill as many as possible. We are asking civilians to return to liberated areas in the next few days," spokes-man Sarath Munasinghe said.

He discounted claims by the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam that 150 civilians had been killed, 250 wounded and another 300,000 displaced as a result of the heavy fighting concentrated on the southwestern flank of the Palaly military complex.

"There are no civilians in the areas where the fighting is taking place because they had... enought time to get out of the firing line. But we are asking civilians to return in about two days," Mr. Munasinghe said.

He said the government was gearing for a major provision of food, medicine and electricity to those who return to the areas wrested from the control of the re-

As heavy fighting flared, an air force helicopter was shot and crippled by the rebels, forcing the pilot to make an emergency landing in military-held territory. The helicopter, the second to be hit in as many days, toppled . on landing, wounding one officer and a gunner.

Mr. Munasinghe said aircraft bombed at least three targets in support of ground troops conducting the "Leap Forward" Operation, which involves some 10,000 soldiers, the navy and the airClandestine Voice of Ti-

gers Monday said airforce planes dropped nine bombs on a church at Navaly, killing 65 people and wounding over 100 others. Mr. Munasinghe said he was unaware of it.

The Tiger radio said a hospital had been hit and damaged at Manippay. It also said that 70 bodies of civilians had been taken to the main Jaffna Hospital, which is run under the protection of the International Red Cross.

For the first time in eight vears, the Sri Lankan security forces retook a strategic causeway linking the penin-sula and a naval base located on the small islet of Karainagar to the west of Jaffna, the symbol of Tamil separatism.

The protracted Tamil separatist campaign to establish a separate nation in the island's north has claimed over 50,000 lives in the past 23 years. With the violence escalat-

ing in the island's north, armed forces and the police night without causing any Wellawatte, a predominently youths."

casualties.

Tamil Tigers also attacked a police post in the island's northcentral region Monday, killing five people and wounding two others, the military said.

The military offensive came after a series of reversals suffered by the military since the rebels pulled out of peace talks with the government of President Chandrika Kumaratunga on April 19. Since then, the rebels have.

killed 500 government troopers. according to military figures. The military also claims killing an equal number of rebels but the guerrillas say the figure is much Meanwhile, most of the 16

people killed and dumped in a lake outside the Sri Lankan capital last month were believed to be minority Tamils, police officials here said Monday.

Four of the 10 bodies found so far have been identified as Tamils including that tightened security in the of one youth, Naresh Racapital Colombo, where jadurai, who was employed three bombs went off over- at a video-lending store in

Tamil area in the capital, police said.

"We believe all the bodies are that of Tamils. Investigations are continuing. We would like relatives of persons who are missing to help us identify the others," a police officer said.

Police fished out 11 bodies from the Bolgoda Lake outside the capital and found another five under a roadside culvert in northwest Alawwa prompting President Kumaratunga to order a probe into the killings.

The victims had been murdered and most men had their hands tied, police said. Police said they did not rule out the possibility of the victims being linked to fighting in the northeast between security forces and the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

The LTTE in a statement last week claimed that 30 bodies of youths from the minority Tamil community had been found by June 14 and said that Tamil parents were "distraught over the sudden disappearance of



Sri Lankan security forces search a park in the capital following a bomb blast in the area. They were no casualties in the explosion. A second explosion occurred later in the capital, again with no casualties. Both blasts come a

day after Tamil rebels warned they would bomb Colombo if the government failed to probe alleged human rights abuses by the military (AFP photo)

## U.S. diplomat meets detained Chinese- American

BEIJING (R) — Three ment," which agrees on conweeks after being detained by: China and cut off from the outside world, Chinese-American human rights activist Harry Wu, who faces espionage charges, finally met a U.S. diplomat Mon-

Consul-General Arturo Macias met Mr. Wu in detention in the central Chinese city of Wuhan, a U.S. embassy spokeswoman said.

"This is the meeting we've been seeking. This meeting has taken place.... It is a step forward," she said. She declined to provide details.

Xinhua News Agency said the visit was "arranged at the request of the U.S. embassy in Beijing in accordance with the Sino-U.S. consular agree-

AVIGNON, France (AP)—

A Spanish tour bus filled with

college vacationers struck a

truck and overturned in

southern France before dawn

Monday, killing 22 on board

and injuring 32 others, police

A9 Highway near Avignon at -1:30-a.m. (2330 GMT Sun-

day) when the driver dozed

off and the bus hit the truck,

the bus, which struck the

turned, said police, who held

Of the 59 on board the bus.

22 were killed and 32 injured,

10 seriously. Only the driver

the driver for questioning.

The driver lost control of

centre divider and over- are dead," Ms. Gil said.

and four young passengers Amsterdam to celebrate the

The crash occurred on the

China formally arrested Mr. Wu Saturday on charges of espionage. Stealing state secrets and trying to enter the country under an assumed

name. He facese a maximum

penalty of death. law and committed crimes,'

Xinhua said. • Mr. Wu, born in China but now a U.S. citizen, was detained on June 19 after entering China from Kazakhstan.

The 58-year-old activist. who spent 19 years in Chinese labour camps for dissident activities, apparently recently incurred fresh Chinese wrath for writing extensively about China's secretive prison system and alleged human-rights abuses

escaped unscatahed, police

The four passengers were

"I was sitting on the right

and I fell on the passengers

on the left when the bus fell

over. There was a woman

losing a lot of blood. I spoke

wither, and then she died.

Another woman had her arm

amputated," said 26-year-old

Isabel Gil, who was unhurt.

Ms. Gil is a psychology student from the University

of Barcelona. She and 19

classmates were on their way

back from a five-day trip to

"I have a lot of friends who

taken to an emergency rescue

station and given breakfast and beds Monday morning.

said on anonymity.

He has publicised allegations that China sells organs from executed prisoners.

Beijing denies the allegation. China has rejected demands by the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate for Mr. Wu's immediate re-The U.S. State Depart-

ment maintains Mr. Wu's innocence and says his detention will damage U.S.-China relations, already tense over trade policy, human-rights and security issues.

Analysts say Mr. Wu's arrest as a further souring of China-U.S. relations, which have deteriorated since Beijing protested vehemently against the historic visit of Taiwan President Lee Teng-

end of the school year.

French, police said.

told reporters.

Most of the passengers

Benjamin Gobert, a 17-

year-old Frenchman, was on

his way with three other fami-

ly members to visit relatives

in the south. "My brother

and my cousin have been

taken to the hospital," he

Emergency rescue and fire

Brigade Commander Ber-

.nard Imbert was one of the

first to arrive on the scene.

had pulverized dozens of

metres of the safety divider. At the moment of impact,

three people were struck

under the bus. We found

The militants, from the

previously unknown Al

Faran group, are demanding

the government release 20

guerrilla leaders detained

during the five-year separtist

insurgency in India's only

Muslim-majority state, Jam-

"It was atrocious. The bus

were Spanish, but others

were Dutch, Belgian and

Hui to the United States, in

June. Last month, the United States accused China of violating an internationally recognised consular convention by refusing to let U.S. diplomats contact Mr. Wu. Beijing insisted it has

accord but says Washington has repeatedly violated it. Apparently underscoring China's insistence it had not violated the accord, Xinhua said: "The relevant Chinese department informed the

U.S. embassy in Beugubg of

Mr. Wu's arrest immediately

afterwards." Chinese officials, reached by telephone in Wuhan, had no immediate comment, but a prison official said Mr. Wu was in court custody.

them when we raised the

vehicle. Others were ejected.

Both lanes of the highway

were littered with human de-

bris and luggage," Comman-

Four people were killed in

another predawn crash Mon-

day between a Slovak bus

and a truck near Troussey in

eastern France; police said.

Twenty-five others on the bus

were injured, five seriously.

dicated that the bus driver

attempted a U-turn on a four-

lane highway. The truck, loaded with 20 tons of paper,

was unable to avoid the bus.

the truck driver and a young

passenger on the bus were

among the dead, police said.

The two drivers on the bus,

An initial investigation in-

der Imbert said.

## Breakthrough announced in Chechenya peace talks

GROZNY, Russia (AFP) — Chechen and Russian negotiators broke through Monday on the thorniest issue at peace talks in Grozny — the status of Chechenya.

There was no final accord but the two sides said in a joint communique that they had agreed "on the approach to the key problem, including Chechenya's status."

The success came however against a backdrop of tension on the streets and the discovery of a man's rotting head in a Grozny suburb, where a Chechen family was massacred three days ago.

Nikolai Semyonov, the administrator from Moscow for Chechenya. said that about 100 Chechen families have been forced to fiee the southern Russian region of Stavropol, where Chechen guerrillas launched a massive raid in mid-June to force the start of the current peace negotiations.

The joint statement said the Chechen independence government negotiators and the Russian authorities trying to end the seven-month war had "advanced on the politic-

al block of questions." No details were given and the talks, mediated by the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), were to continue Tuesday. An OSCE source called Monday's session "the breakthrough."

The Chechens appeared to haye accepted a Russian proposal to postpone the ongterm decision on Chechenya's future until free

and fair general elections have been held. A presidential poll will give

the people a clear chance to state whether they want to remain part of Russia or breakaway, said one of the Russian negotiators, Arkady Volsky.

However, the Chechens are pressing for their government, which declared independence in 1991 and led the war against the Russian army starting in December, to have some official recognition from Moscow.

"After the elections that's for the future status. We're talking about real status today," Chechen delega-tion head Usman Imayev told reporters at the end of the session.

Mr. Imayev showed another sign of compromise on arrival at the talks, saying that he was prepared to discuss future forms of government with Salmabyek Khadzhiev, the Russian-installed interim leader in Chechenya. who is hated by the Dudayev

forces. These are also our people," Mr. Imayev said. Security remained unusually tight around the OSCE, with the posting of helmeted special forces with anti-tank rockets alongside the

Chechen guerrilla guards in Muslim green headbands. After the talks ended, Mr. Imayev and Chechen military commander Aslan Maskhadov addressed a crowd of about 150 Chechens held back from the OSCE house by a line of Russian soldiers and reportedly found in central

armoured personnel carriers for the second day running. The crowd, who had been waiting in the scorching sun all day, responded estatically, crying "Chechen Republic" and "Allahu Akbar," as the Russian troops, bristling with

machineguns and automatic rifles, looked on. Meanwhile, residents in the Grozny suburb of Prigorodny found the head of a decapi-, tated man under a tree in the

ly was massacred last Friday. Residents said they had no idea whom the head of a middle-aged man with an upper-row of gold teeth and thick brown hair, might have belonged to. It was green

street where a Chechen fami-

swarmed with flies. The peace talks collapsed Friday after the massacre of six people, including three children, in Prigorodny. A seventh victim, a woman in her 30s, was mortally wounded by a bullet in the head but was still being kept alive in

from decomposition and

hospital Monday. Witnesses said they saw masked gunmen arrive in a Russian armoured vehicle. The killings, which are under investigation, caused a wave of anti-Russian anger in Grozny, which was captured after being largely destroyed by bombardments in Febru-

There was no indication that the head was of a Prigorodny resident and may have belonged to a headless body

Grozny two days ago. But the message in the terrified village was unmis-takeable. "We clearly see that this is a threat, after the killings, that if we talk we'll get the same thing," said Sharani Yakhiyev, 39, a close friend of the family that was killed.

"It is a threat to scare us." he said, pointing at the head. "We hadn't even had time to get over those killings and

now they throw a head down here," said Yakha Khadamova. 42, bursting into tears. "If I had anywhere to go, I'd drop everything, take the children and run," she said.

The incident came as Russian authorities declared four soldiers accused of the murders of two other Chechens, in northern Grozny on Friday, innocent.

Meanwhile, Russia's Constitutional Court Monday began a review of President Yeltsin's order to send troops power to the defence minister

came to light.

The Federation Council, the upper house of the Russian parliament, raised the case, arguing that the president should have asked its approval before pouring troops into Chechenva on Dec. 11, 1994, to oppose an independence bid by forces. loyal to Dzhokhar Dudayev.

The council Monday revealed that a secret presidential decree gave Defence Minister Pavel Grachev sweeping powers to end the Chechenya crisis from No.

## Controversial Indian film director hurt by bomb

Tourist bus crash kills 22 in France

MADRAS (R) — The director of a controversial Indian film angrily denounced by Muslim fundamentalists was hurt in a bomb attack Monday in the southern city of

Madras, a doctor said. Dr. K.R. Sridharan said director Mani Ratnam. whose film Bombay was banned briefly to placate angry Muslims, was attacked with three crude bombs as he read a newspaper at home.

His assailants escaped in a scooter taxi.

"He has got multiple peliet injuries but he is not serious," Sridharan said. Mr. Ratnam would stay in hospital for a day, he added. Mr. Ratnam's maid also

sustained similar injuries, he Officials said the attack

could be linked to the film. which depicts the love story of a Muslim girl with a Hindu boy and their attitude to communal violence that engulfed bombay in 1993.

Mr. Ratnam also made a highly successful movie linked to India's Kashmir separatist problem, called "Roja" (the rose). Both were made in Tamil and dubbed in Hin-

Meanwhile, Western tourists with no chance of rescue by Indian soldiers remained Monday in the hands of Kashmir separatist guerrillas demanding the release of 20 imprisoned comrades. Government sources ruled

out rescue operations by Indi-

an troops to free two Britons.

an American and a German

for fear hostages might be

mu and Kashmir. "If our demands are not met by the government before July 15, the government will be responsible for all consequences," a statement from the group, written in Urdu and received by local

harmed.

media on Sunday, said. Forty insurgents from Al Faran kidnapped two Britons and two Americans while they were on a trekking holiday near Pahalgam, 90 kilometres east of Srinagar

The guerrillas released three women and a man in the group, as well as their two

One of the kidnap victims. John Donald Childs from the United States, escaped from his captors Saturday. A fifth western tourist.

Dirk Hasert from Germany, was abducted in the mountains 25 kilometres from Pahalgam Saturday. It was not known whether the two abductions were carried out by the same group. Childs, the American who

escaped, was spotted on a ridge in the rugged Himalayan valley fifteen hours after he escaped. He was spotted from a helicopter carrying Lieutenant-General D.D. Saklani, security adviser to Myung-Suk, rescued Sunday the state governor. after 10 days entombed in an

## Death toll passes 200 in S. Korea store collapse

SEOUL (AFP) — The official death toll in the Seoul department store collapse shot up to 203 Monday, Yonhap Television News

The number missing in the tragedy still stood at well over 200, meaning that the final death toll was expected to exceed 400.

More than 900 were injured in the June 29 collapse of the five-storey Sampoong Heavy equipment was fast reaching the collapsed base-

structure where the stench of decomposing bodies was overpowering, witnesses said. Television stations, meanwhile, showed a quietlyemotional reunion between 21-year-old student, Choi

ment levels of the five-storey

air pocket deep in the rubble, and the girlfriend he thought had died in the collapse. The girl, a fellow shop

assistant injured in the collapse, was shown sitting clasping Choi's hand as he started taking his first food, a little rice, in suburban St. Mary's hospital.

"Her face came into my mind many times (during the ten days underground), Mr.Choi told reporters Monday. Doctors said he was improving rapidly.

Mr. Choi told reporters Sunday he had survived on water seepage and by chewing on a cardboard carton.

'I feel like I am in heaven," he was quoted as saving when he awoke in a ward in suburban St. Marv's .Hospital before dawn Mon-

day.
"When I woke in the dark I

thought I was still down there, but then I realised a school friend was holding my hand, then the nurses came. Yonhap News Agency quoted him as saying.

Investigators tracing how the owners of the doomed store had been able to illegally modify the shoddily-built structure said the official who had approved the modifications had received a free \$15,800 membership to an exclusive country club.

The Sampoong owners, now under arrest for manslaughter, caused by criminal negligence, had allegedly given the club membership to Socho Ward office chief, Hwang Chol-Min, when he declared the modifications safe in 1990, they said.

Mr. Hwang's annual membership fees for three years, worth \$3,950, were also paid trash landfill.

by Sampoong, the investigators said. Socho office urban development chief. Lin Chae-Keun, told investigators that

cial had bypassed him in the approval process. Arrested warrants were issued for three more local officials on preliminary evidence that they, too, had received thousands of dollars in cover-up kickbacks.

Mr. Hwang and a junior offi-

Investigators have already determined that the Sampoong owners moved a major pillar while illegally adding 2,000 square metres to the basement space, weakening a building aiready flawed by the use of substandard build-

ing materials.

The shopping centre was built during a building boom in 1989 on the site of an old

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## Dialogue before solutions

THE FOREIGN ministers of the eight Arab states who are signatories to the Damascus Declaration, authored in the wake of Iragi occupation of Kuwait, have just concluded a meeting they held this week on a positive note. They called for more determined efforts to forge one united Arab front on all issues affecting the nation. While it is indeed progress for any group of Arabs to get together and call for unity, we must admit that we have a concern or two about what our brothers have just decreed. The big question is whether we, the Arabs, consist of оле or several blocs. As long as there are limited Arab pacts and exclusive alliances, open to some and denied to others, the Arab Nation would remain deeply divided instead of being united as called for by the eight, namely the six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Egypt and Syria.

On the eve of the Gulf conflict, the Arab World had three major alliances grouping most Arab countries except Syria. Those were the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), the Maghreb Union and the GCC. The ACC (which grouped Jordan, Egypt, Yemen and Iraq) was the first victim of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. It has since been put in deep freeze. The Maghreb Union also did not record any big, or small, successes. Its members have more differences than they have in common. On the other hand, the GCC (which groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain) has cracks in its walls as a result of differences that appeared in the aftermath of the Gulf conflict. And the Arabs' overall umbrella, the Arab League, seems to be out of it for now. In fact long before, during and after the Gulf crisis the League failed to avert any crisis between any two of its members.

While the Arab Nation seems to be afflicted by so many problems, there are nevertheless some signs of hope. The recent rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and Yemen, the scaling down of the conflict between Sudan and Egypt, repeated calls for ending sanctions on Iraq and reports of imminent reconciliation between Jordan and Saudi Arabia are all signs that the Arab leaders are finally coming to realise that the threats they face collectively are greater than those they pose to each other. If current efforts could lead to a full or mini-Arab summit that would be some achievement. Even more limited summits, like the hopedfor meeting between Their Majesties King Hussein and King Fahd, could make a lot of difference to the future of the nation. We say this because we believe that short of Arab leaders meeting one another and hammering out outstanding issues, nothing of tangible magnitude could be achieved.

#### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

A WRITER in Al Ra'i daily decried the role of the United Nations and questioned the reason behind the Arab countries' membership in this organisation which, he said, is working against the Arab Nation's interests. Citing the UN failures in Palestine, Somalia, Afghanistan, the West-ern Sahara and Iraq. Tareq Masarwah said the world organistion has proved its total failure largely because it remains under the influence of the United States and its allies. Referring to the U.N. failure in Bosnia, the writer said the Western powers are not taking serious measures to ston the conflict because there is no oil or other interests for them to protect in that region. He said the U.N. has failed to provide protection to the Kurds because an ally of the Western powers is involved in war against the Kurdish population. The United States is by no means eligible to lead the United Nations in matters to safeguard world peace because it has been steering the world organisation in a manner that would protect its own selfish interests and those of the wealthy Western nations, continued the writer.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour urged the Ministry of Supply to fix the prices of coffee and restrain the excessive greed of the merchants who deal with this popular commodity. Mohammad Daoud said that the price of coffee in Jordan is still high, two months after the sharp drop in its world prices; but the government was doing nothing in this matter. Refuting excuses given by merchants that they had bought the coffee at previous high prices, the writer said that these same merchants hiked the coffee prices the minute they heard of the frost that ruined Brazilian coffee causing world coffee prices to soar, though their stores were full of coffee purchased at the previous lower prices. As long as the merchants are allowed to raise the coffee prices the minute they hear the world price increases, they ought to be forced to bring these prices down the moment these prices decline, said the writer.

The View from Fourth Circle

By Rami G. Khouri

## Arabian golf ball cleaners and the business of tourism

OF ALL the economic and social sectors where Mideast peace may usher in new hopes and opportunities, the most obvious to date is tourism — but it is also among the most dangerous — in terms of the long-term well-being of Jordan's human culture, social fabric and natural environ-

The rapid expansion in the tourism sector during the past half year has seen a sharp (nearly 100 per cent) increase in tourist arrivals, rising employment and substantial expressions of intent to invest in hotels, bus companies and other new tourism projects. This is good news for those in Jordan, including myself, who believe that a sensible tourism policy can contribute significantly to the economy while also playing the equally important role of promoting mutually beneficial and enjoyable people-to-people contacts with visitors from other lands and cultures.

The danger, however, is that the volume, allure and political muscle of private sector money in the tourism sector may very well overwhelm the capacity and the desire of the government to provide the sort of quality controls and environmental and social safeguards that are necessary to keep tourism from developing into a negative force in our country. Will government licensing promote tourism that is as beneficial to Jordan and Jordanians as it is to foreign firms and investors? Will rapid and large-scale tourism expansion promote a healthier or a more destructive attitude among Jordanians to their natural and historical heritage sites?

The track record of our country is very mixed in this respect. The touristic and urban development of Agaba, for example, has been quite coherent and stringent, and most of the important natural attractions remain relatively well-protected; but the development of Petra and Wadi Musa has been haphazard and chaotic, especially the government's licensing of major new hotels in the immedi-

ate vicinity of the antiquities site. This suggests to me that when the Jordanian private sector and international investors flex their muscles, they can do virtually anything they please; and they can justify it in terms of the new gods that we are being conditioned to worship — creating jobs and increasing foreign exchange income. If tourism does not benefit ordinary Jordanians in an equitable manner, and instead primarily satisfies the aims of foreign travellers and investors, then I suggest we need to completely rethink why we attract tourists and how our country can benefit from promoting the tourism sector.

I was both pleased and worried to read recently that local, regional and international investors have submitted offers to invest more than JD 200 million in tourism projects along the northeast coast of the Dead Sea. Other areas in Jordan may experience a similar rush of investments, such as Wadi Rum, Madaba. Umm Qais, the south coast at Agaba and perhaps Pella and Azraq.

These sites are remarkable for their combination of unspoilt, almost pristine natural beauty, easy accessibility to important antiquities and the very relaxed, natural interaction that can occur between visitors and native.

These assets, however, may be seriously and irreparably damaged by tourism development projects that place a higher premium on cash flow than on preserving the deeply satisfying natural attributes and human values that define the best of Jordan and its people. How many times these days do visitors at Petra, for example, interact with local residents in a manner that goes beyond cash transactions, bargaining and asking for tips?

We already have several troubling examples of what can happen when a fast, large influx of tourist money descends upon a traditional Jordanian community. Economic distortions result in very high land prices, which make life difficult for young people who find it increasingly difficult to buy, build or rent a home. Tourism merchants and service personnel, despite their honourable nature, often find it irresistible to engage in price gouging, over-charging and flagrant commercial exploitation of foreign visitors. Jordanians today increasingly get into the business of pirating tourism books and videos. Natural environments slowly give way to new buildings and the destructive pressures of large numbers of tourists in small areas, often without sufficient sanitary facilities. Traditional crafts slowly change to suit the tastes of international markets, sometimes totally losing touch with their ancestral cultural legacy - Europeans and Americans will buy purple magazine holders for their bathrooms, so Jordanians weavers and embroiderers will produce these novel items. The acceptable promotion of our antiquities and natural sites has slowly expanded into the more problematic marketing and selling of our own human culture, which we seem willing to change to suit foreign commercial tastes.

Perhaps the most troubling aspect of the social and natural fragility of our tourist sites is the fact that most destruction there is carried out by Jordanians. The black market in antiquities is a local enterprise, and almost all of the destructive, ugly graffiti on our ancient monuments is the work of Jordanian and other Arab visitors — as any informal inventory of the names spray-painted or scratched into the monuments will confirm: Not many Peters or Siegfrieds, but lots of Majids and Ahmads. Most of the litter and human feces at the sites is deposited there by local visitors, and the schoolchildren who run around picking the roses at the Jerash resthouse are Jordanian children, not foreign tourists.

These are uncomfortable but true facts that we ignore atour peril. I mention them with much sadness, but in the spirit of desiring to promote a more vigorous focus on the full realities and consequences of rapid tourism expansion in a context of such a delicate natural and cultural

Tourism development in Jordan has given too much emphasis to satisfying the commercial aims of private Jordanian and international investors, without sufficient attention to spreading the gains of tourism more equitably among Jordanians. If this legacy is allowed to prevail in the coming few years of anticipated tourism expansion, we may have to accept the inevitability of some cultural and environmental disasters in some remote sites that are now veritable gems.

To minimise this possibility, I recommend two actions. The first is establishing a national monitoring system that would track social, environmental, economic, cultural and political changes that occur at touristic sites. If we know what good and bad things happen at tourism sites that develop rapidly, we could promote the good and reduce the

My second suggestion is quickly to establish - preferably this summer - a national system that can make the important impending decisions on tourism investments in a manner that taps the best minds in the country and among our many international friends and partners. It would be an act of great developmental sensitivity and political maturity, for example, for the planning, tourism, industry and commerce and municipal and rural affairs and the environment ministries (who are involved in various aspects of approving new investments) to hold public hearings about proposed major new tourism activities, especially in Wadi Rum, Umm Qais, the Dead Sea coast and Aqaba. It should be a mistake of nearly criminal magnitude, for example, to allow the licensing of large new hotels as close to antiquities and natural sites as has already occurred in Petra. We have no guarantee today that this will not occur again.

The minister of tourism and antiquities and his senior staff have already shown great determination and will to make the tough decisions that have to be made to assure the long-term, environmentally sustainable, and socially dignified development of the tourism sector. They will face enormous new political and commercial pressure in the immediate future, though, as hundreds of millions of dollars of investor funds seek new outlets in Jordan.

What will happen, for example, if a big-name international hotel chain with a politically powerful local agent offers to spend JD 20 million to build a golf resort and small airport between the mountains in Wadi Rum, with promises of local construction contracts, employment opportunities and a big new annual market of tens of thousands of high-spending Japanese, American and European golfers? Can the decision-making system in Jordan resist such offerings to the new commercial gods of the global marketplace?

I would find it very sad if the local inhabitants of Wadi Rum transformed their vehicles into Arabian golf carts, and the local handicraftsmen and women started producing Arabian Nights or Holy Land golf bags and hand-embroidered golf ball cleaning rags. Sounds ridiculous? Of course it does, because it is ridiculous. But in the present climate of escalating investor pressures to exploit our land and culture for their own profitability, it is more possible than ever before.

This moment of change, opportunity, hope and challenge calls for Jordanians in the private sector and non-governmen tal organisations to work closely with the government to make sure that we are not collectively overwhelmed and humiliated by the invisible hand of the marketplace that would have us forever dance for dollars.

## Division along the Nile

By G.H. Jansen

IN THE first work of history ever written. Herodo-"the Father of History", wrote in the fourth-century B.C. "Egypt is the gift of the Nile," meaning not only that the soil of Egypt is made up of sediment deposited by the river but also that it is the water of the river used for Egypt's intensive cultivation that keeps Egypt alive.

But it is those same waters that are now the cause of contestation between Egypt and the Sudan. through which the river flows before reaching Egypt from its sources in central Ethiopia and central Afri-

Or so it would seem, as has seemed to be the case for the past century. But, in truth, the proximate cause of the present crisis is not the Nile waters or a longstanding border dispute but the state of the psyche of Egypt's President Hosni Muberak, following the assassination attempt on him immediately after he arrived in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa for a meeting of the Organisation

of African Unity (OAU). Mr. Mubarak's reaction was to hurry home to Cairo without entering the city. No "business as usual" stance for him. This was a humiliation for the Egyptian president but one which he brought down on

himself. Since Egypt immediately blamed Sudan for being behind Islamists who were responsible for the attack. Mr. Mubarak is seeking ways to punish Sudan. The Egyptians continue to blame Sudan even after the militant Islamic group in Egypt, Gamaat Al Islamiva, claimed responsibility for the shooting and even though police investigation showed that the gunmen killed in the attack were Egyptians not Sudanese.

So the Egyptians promptstirred up more violence in the already disturbed area of Halaib which both countries claim and there have been deaths on both sides during the past fortnight. Halaib is a comparatively small triangle of land with its eastern side on the Red Sea and its southern side on the frontier line between Egypt and Sudan. This is a very old dispute. because as far back as 1899 a treaty placed Halaib in Egyptian territory though a

later treaty of 1902 said that should be administered by Sudan: a sure prescription for subsequent trouble between the two countries that have never been particularly friendly with each other despite the fact, or because of the fact, that they are both dependent on the Nile.

During the exchange of verbal abuse between Egypt and Sudan, the latter made empty threats. On two separate occasion Sudanese spokesmen, one of them being Hassan Al Turabi, spoke of withholding Nile waters from Egypt.

This was foolish not only because the Nile waters are a simple matter of life and death for Egypt - the later president Anwar Sadat is quoted as saying that water is the only issue for which Egypt could go to war again -- but also because Sudan, topographically, is in no position to carry out this

To withhold water from the Nile the Sudanese would have to build a very large dam across the river, due to the great volume of the Nile flow, especially during the annual flood scason, and to create an equally large resevoir behind the dam. like the monumental High Dam and Lake Nasser at Aswan in Egypt, which could not have been built without massive assistance from the the USSR.

Such a vast scheme is quite beyond the capabilities of Sudan at the present time when she is bereft of friends because of Islamist and nationalist policies followed by the present army! Islamic regime.

Policy considerations

aside, the topography of the flat territory through which the Nile flows when traversing Sudan does not favour any such scheme. A dam and a resevoir can be built only where a river has high ground on either side between which the river waters can be impounded. otherwise the dammed water would innundate the surrounding countryside and turn it into a marshland like the vast area of the Sud in southwestern Sudan. Lake Nasser runs hundreds of miles behind the high dam because its banks are low. And they would be even lower along the course of the Nile in Sudan. The only place where such a dam could be built would

be at Roseires, a point just inside Sudan, where she Blue Nile debouches from the highlands of Ethiopia onto the lowlands of Sudan, and where a dam has already been built.

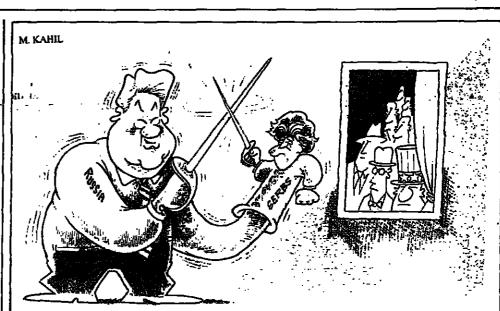
Building a dam anywhere along the upper reaches of the Blue Nile would not present a problem because the river runs through hilly country in Ethiopia which, if it built dams, could seriously harm both Egypt and Sudan. This could be one reason why Egypt has been careful not to complain against Ethiopia, not even for negligence in allowing the assassination attempt to take place just outside its capital city.

Present Sudanese polícies have brought Sudan, alongside Iran, Iraq, Syria and Libya, onto the list of "terrorist states" drawn up by the U.S. This situation has led at least one Palestinian political scientist to argue that the assassination attempt and the resulting hostility between Egypt and Sudan are nothing but a thinly camouflaged attempt to bring down the present militant Sudanese government. His argument goes on: Of these so-called "terrorist states" Iraq is crippled, Iran is far away, Syria is caught up in the peace process, Libya is marginal, which leaves Sudan as the only real threat to Pax-Americana in the West

Asian area. Egypt accuses the Islamic regime of giving covert aid and comfort to the Islamic antagonists of the Mubarak regime in Egypt: while, for its part, Sudan accuses Egypt of giving aid and comfort, quite openly, to the Christian and animist groups in southern Sudan. who have waged a long-drawn-out civil war against

Besides the violence in the Halaib area, in yet another retaliatory act, Egypt has now decreed that the two million Sudanese living in Egypt - some of them for generations --must all acquire visus -- of one month's duration. This requirement can only lead to most horrendous confusion, and corruption in the already inefficient and overburdened Egyptian administration. Although there are hundreds of thousands of Egyptians living in Sudan, Khartoum has

said it would not retaliate.



## Turkey's constitutional mire threatens EU deal

By Suna Erdem Reuter

ANKARA — Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller is back at square one this week in her bid to democratise the country's constitution after a conservative alliance in parliament sniped relentlessly at her every proposal.

But analysts and diplomats say Ankara's customs unions deal with Europe is in the balance unless the government can show, and soon, concrete progress in making Turkey more demo-

Ms. Ciller froze debate on a series of constitutional changes on Thursday after parliament voted down an amendment to give public sector workers union rights. She said it was to allow a new consensus to form but gave no time for debate to

Thursday's vote was just the last straw -- progress on all other measures had also been painstakingly slow. despite an initial cross-party consensus to reform the constitution drawn up in 1982 by Turkey's generals, then in power.

This was the one thing the European parliament was expecting Turkey would manage," a Western diplomat said.

'Ciller has to have something to show ... There were three options - the release of the DEP MPs. Article 8. and this. This looked to be the easiest," he added.

The other possible measures the diplomat referred to were the release of six former Turkish MPs who were jailed last year for supporting Kurdish rights. and an article in the constitution which hinders freedom of expression and has been responsible for jailing scores of writers and intel-

European Union (EU)

negotiators struck a cus-toms deal with Turkey earlier this year that would give Ankara full access to European markets and is a significant stepping stone to EU membership. But the European Parlia-

lectuals.

ment has still to ratify the deal and has made it clear it wants to see Turkey show. by action rather than words, it is committed to full liberal democracy. In fact, the constitutional

debate designed to achieve that has ended up throwing that commitment into ques-"It seems (local) political expediency came out tops against the advantages

offered by the constitutional changes." Sedat Ergin, a columnist at Hurrivet daily, told Reuters. On freezing the par-liamentary debate, Ms. Ciller launched a bitter attack on opposition Motherland Party (ANAP) leader Mesut Yilmaz, whom she accuses of jumping ship af-

ter pledging support From voting on other amendments in the package, it was clear ANAP deputies - and some from Ms. Ciller's own True Path Party (DYP) — had joined the Islamist Welfare Party (RP) in blocking measures in a powerful conservative

some pressure from the other side, her liberal junior coalition partners the Republican People's Party (CHP), which occasionally tried to block measures they felt did not go far enough.

It was not clear where Ms. Ciller would go from here.

Some parliamentary analysts saw Thursday's freezing as a tactic to scare dissenters into supporting her, but others now see little chance of the changes being completed. This is one of the worst

constitutions in the world, political columnist Mehmet Ali Birand said. "But I don't think there will be a consensus on it now... It has become mired in the bog of domestic politics." He said Ms. Ciller would have to focus now on the narrower goal of scrapping Article 8, although some

analysts say this is tougher than the process which has just broken down, 'Article 8 has become a matter of honour... It represents those tied to the old

system versus the new. Mr. Birand said. Early general elections are another option, although Ms. Ciller insists her coalition with the CHP

will not split up.
ANAP is now calling for fresh elections.

Turkey's stock market lummeted recently when CHP ministers (ailed to turn up to a cabinet meeting, and grassroots supporters in the party accuse its leadership of being bullied by Ms. Ciller's party into Ms. Ciller also faced cratic values.

6 y 6 has p beyon By Laura Ki Be Associated

FOUL Not continued to the continued to t Manifer Nature di monitors ete yerth Korea. Nm. 82 died of 2 per tefore daun c Jour according : wee with report de government

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## 6 years after death, Kim Il Sung has power from

By Laura King The Associated Press

SEOUL — Not long ago, North Korean cities and towns took down giant portraits of their late "great leader," Kim Il Sung - and put up even bigger ones.

Nearly a year after his death, Kim still casts a long shadow over the isolated, impoverished country he ruled with absolute authority for 46 years.

The anniversary also raises new questions about the role of Kim's son and heir apparent, Kim Jong II, a shadowy, uncharismatic figure whose influence still appears dwarfed by that of his dead father. No one knows why he hasn't fully

assumed power yet. "În a sense, North Korea is still ruled by Kim II Sung," said South Korea's semi-official Naewoe Press, which monitors events in North Korea.

Kim, 82, died of a heart attack before dawn on July 8, 1994, according to North Korea. With typical secrecy, the government made no announcement for 34 hours. Thousands of weeping North Koreans filed past the flower-decked funeral bier.

In life, Kim was the centre of a personality cult, and death hasn't dimmed his luster as far as North Korea's official media are concerned. As the anniversary neared, they were pulling out the stops and piling on the accolades.

"Yearning for the president is getting deeper as the days go by," the official Korean Central News Agency reported this week. It said more than 4,000 poems have been composed in his honour, together with songs "sung widely among the people."

A sample verse, titled "O Leader, our Leader," was said to describe "grasses and trees wriggling in grief"

over Kim's death. North Korea has not released any schedule of comthis weekend, though media reports have described a variety of official

tributes already in progress. At least four new films celebrate Kim's accomplishments, and Northwatchers say viewing is believed mandatory. A recent symposium hailed Kim's philosophy of

"juche," or socialist selfreliance, as a "brilliant model of literature and art of humankind," official reports say. Commemorative coins have been minted, worth about \$1,500 each nearly three years' pay for the average citizen.

The younger Kim's power base remains a mystery. Rarely seen in public, he has been variously reported to be ill, under pressure

beyond the grave

North-watchers say a ponderous 45-page treatise on socialism recently appeared in Kim Jong Il's — expressing views nearly identical to those of

ly unstable. One thing is

certain: He is taking care to

follow in his father's foot-

Kim II Sung. New North Korean diplomats still present credentials carrying the elder Kim's name. The younger Kim is even said to imitate his father's distinctive slanting handwriting.

Kim's posthumous political influence is largely read in Western diplomatic circles as a positive force. His death came in the midst of a high-stakes confrontation over the North's nuclear programme, one that he appeared to be moving

Shortly before his death, Kim had met with former U.S. president Jimmy Carter, promising steps to allay concerns the North was assembling a nuclear arsenal. Arrangements were being finalised for a firstever North-South summit.

Despite fits and starts af-ter Kim's death, North Korea continued on the road to nuclear compromise. In October, an accord was reached under which the North agreed to accept replacement reactors and other benefits in exchange for ending its nuclear prog-

The accord has not yet been implemented, but tensions have eased markedly since last summer, when the North threatened to turn Seoul to a "sea of fire" if U.N. sanctions were imposed over the nuclear dis-

Much of the North's motive for conciliation is a failing economy. Defectors report hunger and hardship, particularly in the

Apparently fearing hunger could set off unrest, North Korea has begun southern rival and is even preparing to take rice from

long-hated enemy Japan. Despite hopeful signs, few observers expect consistently normal behaviour soon from North Korea. In private, Western envoys tend to let fly undiplomatic words like "nutty" and "weird" when describing

the North. In recent months, North Korea has repeatedly claimed that the armistice that ended the Korean War has outlived its usefulness. Some U.S. military officials express private concerns that the North could be planning some military provocation as a pretext for forcing direct peace talks that would snub South

## S. Pacific slams French raid

to their dented vessel. Rainbow Warrior was justified to ensure respect for

'Faced with operations that violate the law, we do what is needed to assure that the law is respected and we will continue to do so," prime minister Alain Juppe said.

France "does not live in fear" of actions by opponents of its decision to resume nuclear testing at the Mururoa atoll site in September, Mr. Juppe told reporters at his

"We have a goal. The president of the republic has

(Continued from page 1) made a decision because that decision appeared to him to be in the best interests of the nation. This view is shared by the government," the prime minister said.

France's allies in Europe shied from criticising the raid in public though some privately expressed dismay over the strongarm tactics.

\*One could argue that they haven't done this very well. You would have thought they might have been a bit more sensitive, both in the way they did it and in the timing. said one diplomat from a major Euopean ally.

## Australià urges Israel to sign NPT

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans called on Israel on Monday to join the nuclear Non-Proliferation would like to see Israel signed up to that treaty." Mr. Evans added arms control and regional security talks as part of the multilateral track of the Middle East peace talks.

Save Water ... Every Drop Counts

## Sudanese feel the bite of a worsening economy

By Salah Nasrawi The Associated Press

KHARTOUM — Standing at a podium in a Chinesebuilt conference hall. Sudah's military leader extols the achievements of the Islamic revolution. Soon, he thunders, oil and gold will bring wealth, and dams will create reservoirs to water the desert.

On the other side of the Nile River, in another part of this sweltering capital, electricity flickers off for the third time in a day. For Sudan's legions of

poor, the failures of Lt. Gen. Omar El Bashir's regime are far better understood than its grand prom-Six years after the coun-

try's democratically elected government was overthrown in a coup, the country struggles with a mountain of foreign debt and skyrocketing prices that put even staples out of reach for most people.

Hardly a week goes by without one of its neighbours accusing Mr. Bashir's government of trying to export Islamic radicalism, making Africa's largest country one of the conti-

Its few allies — namely, Iran and Iraq — can do little but sympathise with its plight since both are isolated themselves. And a long-running war with southern rebels shows no signs of ending.

Now, Sudan's leaders are locked in a bitter war of words with Egypt, its powerful and populous neighbour to the north, which accuses Sudan of plotting the June 26 attempt to assassinate President. Hosni Mubarak during a visit to Ethiopia.

"I haven't been so weary and restless for more than 30 years," said Fatah, a shopkeeper in the Ondurman market, a dusty maze of shanties offering food,

dry goods and clothes. He sells shoes, but complains he can no longer earn enough to provide for his family of eight. A kilogramme of meat cost 17 Sudanese pounds in 1989. Now it costs 2,000 pounds, nent's most despised. which is more than a week's

> though it is worth only \$3.80 on currency markets.

Life has never been easy in Sudan, one of the world's poorest countries. With an area more than one-third that of the continental United States, Sudan has long been seen as a potential breadbasket, watered by the Nile in the north and by

rains in the south. But successive govern-

ments - some civilian. some military --- have failed to exploit its potential.

Islamic government — controlled by Hassan Turabi despite his lack of an official position - promised to turn Sudan into a showcase. pay for a civil servant even

gasoline, flour and medi-Ask me when was the cine. It introduced new taxes that apply to most people, including the poor. last time I are meat or any sort of decent food, and I The Sudanese pound was can never tell," said Fatah, who agreed to talk with a floated, and the exchange reporter on condition that rate was set by the market only his first name be used. rather than the central bank. Inflation set in.

"By God, tell me how can I buy a pair of sandals which cost 3,000 pounds when my (monthly) salary is only 9,000 pounds," said a government employee. who like many Sudanese refused to give his name. Costs for transportation

have increased tenfold since

the 1989 coup.

Government officials insist the economy is fine and even boast that unpre-After the 1989 coup, the cedented growth is on the horizon. In interviews, they dismiss complaints of hardship as exaggerations.

Abdullah Hassan Ahmad, the finance minis-An economic reform programme instituted in ter, said the economic prog-1992 removed subsidies on ramme has cut inflation basic commodities like from 118 per cent last year to 56 per cent. He says Sudan's economy grew 8 per cent last year and exported \$500 million worth of cotton, sorghum and other agricultural products. Opposition figures con-

> \$250 million, compared with \$740 million in 1989. "I don't say there are no problems or hardships, but we are optimistic and we try to put the economy on the move." Mr. Ahmad told the Associated Press. "We are far ahead now in most

sectors. Dr. Turabi and Mr.

Bashir paint a similar picture on the political front, claiming great strides in putting down a 12-year-long rebellion by black southemers resentful of decades of domination from the

But popular support seems lacking. Dr. Turabi's National Islamic Front fared poorly in the last

democratic election in 1986. Sudan's international isolation also shows no signs of ending. The U.S. State Department includes Sudan on its list of states that sponsor terrorism.

Opposition groups say the country faces disintegration.

In Cairo, Mubarak El Fadel El Mahdi, a former Sudanese interior minister living in exile, says conditions in Sudan are worse then they have ever been.

One thing is sure about its future - it is steadily moving towards a total col-lapse." he said.

## Songs of love and protest

By Cherif Cordahi

SHEIKH IMAM Eissa, who has died aged 76, had a wit and energy that made him the Arab World's most famous protest musician in the sixties and seventies. As secular Arab nationalism peaked, he symbolised popular and intellectual opposition to Egyptian presidents Nasser and Sadat.

Born in the village of Abu Nimrus, near Cairo, Imam, who was blind, studied Koranic recitation at the Sharia Association in Cairo. He was later influenced by the school of Sayed Darwish which used folk music to protest against British rule.

In 1962, Imam added his rhythmic folk music to the vernacular "beat" poetry of Ahmad Fouad Nigm. Until the mid-sixties Imam and Nigm played weddings and parties, then just as Nasser's brand of Arab socialism was peaking Arab ism was peaking they shifted towards politics. One of Imam's most famous songs, Guevara Is Dead, praised the Cuban revolutionary killed in Bolivia in 1968. But while the content of the duo's music was defiant, much of it was romantic in feel - theirs were songs that wafted out of windows on warm summer evenings. Then in 1967, in the Six Days War

request to hand over Mr.

Abequa for trial in the U.S.

since an extradition treaty did

not (then) exist between the

Mr. Abequa wept as the

judge announced the one-

year sentence for the kidnap-

ping, while his two sisters

Ruqaya and Mariam, sobbed

and wept while being

escorted outside the court

room by their brother

Defence attorney Masoud

Khalifeh told the Jordan

Times that he was appealing

Prosecutor Michael Mur-

rsey, who arrived Sunday

phy of Morris County, New

in the Kingdom to represent

the victim's family, said the

sentence was fair, but that he

"There is a threat to my

life ... please help me," Mr.

Kumar said and collapsed on

the floor of Magistrate Dhar-

amraj Singh's courtroom. His

mother died of cancer on

Manoj Kumar, the co-

suspect's brother, said anony-

mous callers have been thre-

atening the family since the

arrest of Mr. Kumar follow-

ing Sahni's murder in Mr.

Sharma's two-bedroom

our family is in danger," Mr.

Manoi said.

"The life of everybody in

The police have promised

to extend protection to peo-

ple who help detectives in

solving the murder. It has

apartment in New Delhi.

Monday, lawyers said.

two countries

Adnan.

the verdict.

with Israel, Arab armies suffered catastrophic defeat. Imam and Nigm pilloried the Egyptian army's performance - and got three year jail sentences.

Released in 1971, Imam was jailed again in 1972 by Nasser's successor, Anwar Sadat, for supporting groups that opposed his "infitah" — economic opening to the world. Throughout the decade Imam and Nigm were in and out of prison, while their popularity increased with every incarceration. In 1979, they became the first artists to be tried in a military court for attacking Sadat's policy towards

Israel. Imam was acquitted. During the eighties Imam toured Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, winning particular fame with North Africans, especially émigrés in Paris. But times changed. Egypt's peace with Israel "pulled the carpet from under our feet," says Nigm.

Imam died alone in the old Islamic quarter of Ghoriya near the University of Azhar. Meanwhile the political situation in Egypt and the Arab World is worsening. No one has yet emerged to take Imam's place.

The Guardian

Abequa sentenced to jail

(Continued from page 1)

aunt, Nesime Dokur, in Au- had received promises that

gust. Jordan refused a U.S. the case will be taken by the

Imam Eissa, July 2, 1918 — June 6, 1995.

general attorney to the Court

more substantial sentence

would be appropriate in this

case," Mr. Murphy told re-

portes after the conclusion of

dence and satisfaction with

the judicial system in Jordan.

way the case was handled by

the prosecutor and the court.

and I was satisfied with the

quality of justice in Jordan,

The U.S. prosecutor said

had the case been tried in the

United States, Mr. Abequa

would have received at least a

30-year-sentence, "but with

our parole system he will be

urged Mr. Kumar to testify

missioner Maxwell Pereira,

who is scheduled to escort

Mr. Sharma from Bangalore.

said he was willing to deploy

guards for Mr. Kumar's wife

Several others including

another former Delhi Youth

Congress leader. Maqbool

Karim, have agreed to help

police in the investigation

and testify against Mr. Shar-

The Congress leadership has distanced the 109-year-

old party from Mr. Sharma

and has launched an indepen-

dent investigation into the

New Delhi's Police Com-

against Mr. Sharma.

and two children.

released in 10 years."

he added.

Delhi suspect arrested

(Continued from page 12)

Mr. Murphy stressed confi-

was impressed with the

the three-month old trial.

"My impression is that a

Cassation.

## Chechens inch back to life, still want freedom drunken Chechen is spotted during three years of rule.

GROZNY - Grozny's central market, once the finest in the Caucasus, is beginning to recover some of its old bustle and spirit

amid the charred ruins of the city. In ruined buildings which testify to the ferocity of the Russian artillery bombard-ment, cafes, hairdressers and even some one-man tourist agencies are opening

up for business. Chechens, defeated on the battlefield by Russian troops, are returning slowly to normal life and it is clear they have not abandoned their dream of independ-

ence from Moscow. Even Salambek Khadthiev, prime minister in the Moscow-installed Chechen

government admits that. Asked whether a planned referendum on constitutional issues scheduled for November would include a question of Chechenya's independence or autonomy, he said.

"I do not know if it will be on the referendum but generally this question will always exist.' Many Chechens agree

that Chechen rebel leader Dzhokhar Dudayev did a lot of harm to the state

"We'll sort things out once the Russian troops have gone," is a common phrase on the lips of citizens in the devastated capital.

For nearly all Chechens. Shamil Basayev is a national hero after his bloody sortie into southern Russia last month.

Mr. Basayev and a small army of guerrillas held hundreds hostage in a hospital in the town of Budennovsk for five days before escaping to Chechenya in a convoy of buses, taking 130 'human shield'' civilians with them.

His action forced Moscow to start the first serious peace talks with the rebels. Many Chechens compare Mr. Basayev to Imam Shamil, who in the last century spent years fighting Russian troops trying to capture

Chechenya was, is and will be forever," top Chechen negotiator Usman Imayev said defiantly last month. "We will not allow shame to fall on the

Chechen people.' Although prices in the central market are cheap many people are clearly

hungry. Occasionally a

predominantly Muslim city

tend exports totalled only

in February. Some people are still so shocked that they gather near their destroyed houses unable to do anything but look at them sadly.

In the village of Samashki, captured by the Russians with marked cruelty, children, silent and motionless from shock, play in the sand with empty artillery cartridges

Makeshift street markets are opening in Grozny and elsewhere. More and more people appear in the streets, dressed miraculously in neat clean clothes in a city which has no running

water or electricity. Some people are adding a lick of paint to their houses to cover traces of bullets and shell fragments. More and more cars speed along the Grozny

roads dodging bomb craters and damaged electric Some people smile and most clearly have no grudge

against the Russians as a nation. But batred and sometimes fear show in their eyes when they see Russian

soldiers, many of them

stripped to the waist, speed-

Chris Slaney, head of the

ing along the toads on top of armoured cars, toting

Silence falls immediately when Russian soldiers, most of them tipsy, come to the central market to eat grilled meat or sturgeon

and have more vodka. Even in a central building which houses the pro-Moscow Chechen administration most of Russian special police officers are drunk at night and stagger along corridors gripping

their pistols. Russian forces, sent to Chechenya on Dec. 11 to crush the region's drive for independence, finally won control of Grozny in February after weeks of fighting in which thousands of civi lians were killed and tens of

thousands fled as refugees. Russians control most of Chechenya. But soldiers stationed outside villages still exchange stories of

being attacked every night. Sporadic shooting is heard every night in Groz-ny. Even during peace talks at an Organisation of Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) mission last month there were occasional shots nearby, forcing both Russian and Chechen guards take up combat positions behind their vehicles.

### Israel insists on control of water

(Continued from page 1)

PLO talks is somewhat up in

Secretary of State Warren Christopher has given Mr. Ross wide authority to offer American proposals to bridge differences in both areas.

Israel hopes to hold a new round of autonomy negotiations with the PLO in a castle in the Italian city of Florence on Thursday, but nothing has been finalised, foreign minis-

try officials said. Italy has proposed another venue, the officials said Monday, refusing to say where. The negotiations were expected to resume in Italy as early as Monday, but PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has

intervention in the Israeli- dismissed the reports as "rumours."

Meanwhile the two sides will stage one day of talks in Cairo on Tuesday on the transfer of civil powers to the Palestinians in the West Bank, an army spokeswoman

Negotiators will focus on eight spheres of power: statistics, gas/petrol, industry trade, postal services, agriculture, insurance, municipal affairs and labour, said Cap-

tain Hannie Jeshurun. In Hebron, in the West Bank, Israeli police on Sunday arrested two Palestinian cameramen and a woman journalist as they were filming a rally organised by the left-wing Peace Now group.

Jerusalem bureau of the British television channel WTN, said the three had been arrested when scuffles broke out between demonstrators and Israeli settlers in the West Bank town.

Police intervened and took them to a police station. "Police demanded 1,000 shekels (\$340) to free them, but they refused," Mr. Slanev said.

"We tried in vain to get army and police chiefs to intervene and now we have hired a Palestinian lawyer who has gone there to try to get them released. This is an intolerable obstacle to jour-

nalists' work," he added. A spokesman for the Israeli group Peace Now has also protested at the arrests of the WTN cameraman and

iournalist from East Jerusalem who works for the Associated Press. Right-wing Jews and Muslim officials exchanged blows Monday at the entrance to

his Reuters colleague as well

as the woman Palestinian

Jerusalem's western wall, police said. The incident began when eight activists of the rightwing "Hai Vekayam" group tried to enter the wall and

were stopped by police.

A scuffle developed when several officials of the Waqf, the Islamic trust that administers Muslim holy sites, arrived on the scene, he said. One of the Jews was lightly injured in the head.

All eight Israelis were detained for questioning and police said two Waqf officials would be arrested for assault.

#### Syria outlines terms for peace

(Continued from page 1)

Al Baath said Syria had four conditions to achieve full peace with the Jewish state: 'Total return of the Golan Heights (to Syria). This means that the Israeli troops have to withdraw to the (pre-war) June 4, 1967 (border) lines.

"Rejection of any Israeli presence of any kind on our lands. "Security arrangements

should be equal and balanced on both sides of the border. "Success of the peace process (normalisation of ties between Syria and Israel) is subject to Israel's withdrawal

from our land." Syria's vice-president said meanwhile peace with Israel could be achieved in 10 days if the Jewish state committed itself to a complete withdrawal from the Golan Heights and accepted equal and balanced security arrange-

ments. "We will not concede one single inch of soil," Abdul Halim Khaddam told the pro-

Syrian Al Safir daily of Lebanon in an interview published Monday.

"There is one road leading to a real settlement: a complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and acceptance of equal and balanced security arrangements," he stressed. Mr. Khaddam insisted that

Arab-Israeli war in line with U.N. Security Council re-Mr. Khaddam said the talks on security arrangements held by generals She-

Israel must withdraw to the

lines that preceded the 1967

habi and Shahak did not yeild "specific results." "The recent meeting of the chiefs of staff was aimed at presenting the concept of each of Syria and Israel on how to implement these

arrangements," he said. "It appeared that we differed with Israel on this matter. The Israelis discussed this issue with seriousness. But this did not bridge the

wide gap that still exists between us," Mr. Khaddam said.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa said in Beirut last week that differences over the depth of demilitarised and reduced military zones as well as early warning systems are blocking a peace treaty with Israel.

Former Israeli defence minister Ariel Sharon said the Israeli army no longer includes the Golan Heights as part of its defence strategy. "For several months there have not been any military manoeuvres and simulation exercises in which the Golan has been included, along with

on told the Davar newspaper. In the past all army chiefs of staff systematically considered it essential to control the old volcanic ridge which runs across the middle of the

its water resources, in the

defensive system," Mr. Shar-

Heights, he said. Mr. Sharon, who led the 1982 invasion of Lebanon, accused Mr. Rabin "of having politicised the army, and having incited civil war by making provocative statements against the settlers."

3 Iranian rebels killed (Continued from page 12)

General Boutros Ghali and

the U.N. Security Council

uring international sanctions against Iran. "The time has come to prosecute the crimes and impose international punishments on the ruthless mullahs who do not abide by any law or principle," he said in a statement received in Nico-

Mr. Rajavi also urged Iraq to prosecute and punish those Mr. Suleimani protested

found guilty of the attack. that Monday's shooting "was the 35th military or terrorist attack" Iran had staged against the people's Mujahedeen in Iraq since the start of

Iran, which has accused the Mujahedeen of carrying out most of the attacks inside its borders since 1981, officially asked Iraq in May to extradite Mr. Rajavi and other leaders of the group.

But the request was reiected.

Treaty (NPT) to bolster regional and world security. After more than an hour of talks with his Israeli counterpart Shimon Peres, Mr. Evans admitted they had not seen eye-to-eye on nuclear arms. "I can't pretend we agreed every inch of the way on issues like the future of weapons of mass destruction," he told reporters.
"Australia is a very strong supporter of the NPT, obviously we that Canberra also wanted Israel to ratify the chemical weapons convention it has signed. And Arab countries should do the same, the minister said. "We would like to see the commencement of a serious dialogue process of building effective verification regimes right across the spectrum of weapons of mass destruction and indeed conventional weapons as well." Australia takes part in the

#### By Anatoly Verbin But their will to be free a rare sight before the Reuter their machineguns. from Moscow has not wa-Russian troops seized the

## Saudis seek foreign capital to diversify economy

ABU DHABI (AFP) -Saudi Arabia has made a fresh move to attract foreign capital to support its new five-year development plan. which aims to diversify the economy and offset damage from low oil prices.

The kingdom, the world's leading oil producer and exporter, signed an agreement with the World Bank on Saturday to encourage foreign investment, a few days after it announced details of

its sixth development plan. It was the second measure in almost two years to lure investors who had long been disheartened by restrictions on foreign ownership. Foreigners will be permitted to fully own projects that serve the Saudi economy, especially industrial ventures that help boost non-oil exports.

There is no doubt the new agreement will contribute to attracting foreign capital. which is essential for economic revival," said Anzar Ahmed, deputy chairman of the Consultancy Centre for Finance and Investment.

"But it will have no impact on the Saudi stock market as foreigners are still not allowed to trade in shares," he told AFP by telephone from Rivadh.

Saudi Finance Minister Mohammed Abalkhail signed the memorandum of understanding with World Bank President James Wolfensohn who visited Riyadh as part of a regional tour that also took him to Gaza.

In a statement, the finance ministry said the accord was intended to encourage foreign capital to invest in association with the Saudi private sector through the World Bank's International Invest-

ment Guarantee Agency.
The agreement came on the heels of the announcement of details of Saudi Arabia's 1995-1999 development plan, the most radical economic scheme since the kingdom embarked on a massive development programme in the early 1970s.

The plan, targetting a growth rate of 3.8 per cent. reverses a long-standing policy of high government expenditure to allow the private sector to steer the economy away from oil. It plans spending of around 750 billion Saudi rivals (\$200 billion) far lower than that dur-

ing the previous plan.

The plan's main outlines involve upgrading efficiency. rationalising expenditure, and exploiting the enormous potential of the private sector to diversify the oil-reliant economy and privatise public

It also set investment target of 15.5 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) during its first years.

to rise to 19 per cent later. 'The investment target outlined in the plan covers both public and private capital, but I think the private sector will have the lion share. The Saudi government apparently hopes the agree- its coffers.

ment with the World Bank will support such an objective." a Riyadh-based banker **OPEC** 

output

June,

survey

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — The Organisation of Pet-

roleum Exporting Countries' oil production in June was

25.11 million barrels a day, a slight increase over May, the

Middle East Economic Sur-

The authoritative oil indus-

try newsletten, noted that an

increase in Iranian output of

70,000 barrels daily was offset

by a similar drop in Nigerian

production caused by damage

to a key undersea pipeline at

Mobil's Qua Iboe terminal

The overall June total was

590,000 barrels a day above

the OPEC ceiling of 24.52

million barrels. May produc-tion totalled 25.09 million

MEES, published in Nico-

sia, said that among the ma-

jor violators was Venezuela,

producing 241,000 barrels a

day over its 2.359-barrel

OPEC ceiling and Gabon, 58,000 barrels a day over its 287,000-barrel quota.

Iran's production level was

pegged at 3.645 million bar-

rels. Its quota is 3.6 million

Nigeria's output for June

was 1.85 million barrels a

day, compared to its quota of 1.865 million, MEES re-

barrels.

ported.

vey reported Monday.

steady in

told AFP. Officials have provided no figures on projected investment, but bankers estimated it at a little more than \$100 billion. Their assumption was based on the 3.8 per cent growth rate and the 1994

GDP of \$120 billion. According to the Kuwaitibased Arab Corporation for Investment Guarantee (ACIG), foreign investment in Saudi Arabia is estimated at aroaund 23.8 billion riyals (\$6.34 billion), based mainly in non-oil industries and

banking. They cover nearly 360 ventures owned jointly with the Saudi public and private sectors with a total value of \$14.7 billion.

Bankers said foreigners could be allowed to contribute to privatisation programmes announced by the government last year. They include selling part of the telephone, electricity and water sectors as well as port services to the private sector as part of overall economic

"Foreigners might be allowed to participate in such programmes at a later stage but their share will be li-

mited," a banker said. Saudi Arabia. which controls more than a quarter of the world's crude oil, launched reforms after the decline in oil prices badly hurt

# EU pushes on towards single currency

BRUSSELS (AFP) - EU finance ministers on Monday stepped up preparations for a single currency by pledging to agree by the end of the year on a technical blueprint for its creation.

The ministers, holding their first talks under the EU's new Spanish presidency, also addressed for the first time the relationship between those states which adopt the new currency and those and participating.

This is seen as a potentially explosive issue which, some observers believe, might force a delay in the introduction of the new currency. "The countdown to a sing-

le currency begins in 1996," Spanish finance minister Pedro Solbes said. He urged the ministers to agree on a common "reference scenario" for the swtichover from national monies to a single currency before the Madrid summit of EU leaders in December.

Under the Maastricht Treaty, EU states which meet a series of economic convergence largets are committed to locking exchange rates by January 1, 1999, at the latest. This means a decision on which state are to participate would have to be taken by the beginning of 1998. The objective set by the Spnaish presidency won unanimous backing from the other ministers but the EU faces a tight schedule if it is to meet its goals for Madrid.

Germany has rejected the scenario put forward earlier this year by the European Commission, which envisaged big banking transactions taking place in the single currency immediately after exchange rates are locked and the public following some three years later.

An alternative scenario has yet to be produced by the European Monetary Institute (EMI), the forerunner of the future European central

German minister Juregen Stark urged the EMI to accelerate its report so that the ministers could debate options at an informal meeting in Valencia. Spain at the end of September.

The commission would also like to see the name and design of the notes and coins to be resolved by the Madrid summit - a view that was reiterated on Monday by its president Jacques Santer.

But last month's Cannes summit of EU leaders

avoided setting any target for resolving these sensitive issues and the finance ministers followed suit on Monday by also ducking the issue.

British Chancellor Kenneth Clarke welcomed the beginning of a debate on the relationship between participating and non-participating

"These are very difficult issues but plainly we have o proceed in a way that makes sure the cohesion of the European Union and the functioning of the single market are kept in place," he

France and Belgium are particularly concerned that the first wave of countries merging their currencies would be vulnerable to competitive devaluations by those remaining outside a single money but within the single market.

This has prompted speculation about the possibility of trade barriers being erected and the single market collaps-

ing.

But the most likely solution is seen as the single currency been tied to other EU currencies by an exchange rate grid along the lines of the existing European Monetary System (EMS), whch allows for fluctuations within restricted bands.

"It's a matter of implementing the principles that already exist in Mastricht, establishing as much stability as possible with the help of the central banks," Beglian Finance Minister

Philippe Maystadt said. This option could prove difficult to sell to Britain and Italy however. Both countries have benefitted economically from their exit from the EMS and subsequent devaluations, making it unlikely they would easily accept having the shackles reimposed.

The commission is due to produce a report on the issue for Madrid but the debate is unlikely to be resolved until it is clear which countries will take part in the single curren-

That will depend on the progress made by member states on bringing debt and deficit levels into line with Maastricht targets. Only three EU states - Germany. Ireland and Luxembourg currently meet the targets and the meet here was due to adopt recommendations on cuts in spending for the other 12 countries.

## Iran ups oil sales to Asia after U.S. embargo

NICOSIA (R) - Iran is accounted for around a quarcountering a Ú.S. trade ban by selling more of its vital hard-currency oil exports to Japanese and other Asian companies, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES)

reported on Monday.
U.S. President Bill Clinton's trade sanctions against Tehran, which went into effect on June 6 because of Iran's alleged sponsorship of terrorism, severed the annual \$4 billion oil trade between the two countries.

American oil companies

ter of Iran's total crude exports of 2.5 million barrels per day (bpd) until the sanctions went into effect. This has led to concern within the oil industry that Iran would not be able to find other customers and that oil prices

could fall. But MEES said that the end of the seasonal refinery region to increase their demand of Iranian oil.

maintenance work in Asia allowed oil companies in that Japanese and other Asian refiners from turnaround this month allowed Far East buyers to ratchet up their purchases of Iranian crude in June enough to offest. volumes backed out by the U.S. trade ban against the country," MEES reported.

MEES said that Japanese energy companies, Iran's major customers in the region, lifted an average of 640,000 bpd of Iranian crude in June, compared with

366,000 in April. Liftings by American com-panies fell in June to 186,000 bpd from 740,000 bpd in May as Mr. Clinton's sanctions

The American companies had lifted the Iranian crude cargoes in the first week of June before the ban came into effect.

Iran has said that the Clinton embargo will not affect its oil industry and that its hard currency oil revenue is runming above that forecast in this year's Iranian budget.

## Lebanon marks fifth month of balance-of-payments deficit

BEIRUT (AFP) - Lebanon registered a \$136 million deficit in its balance of payments in May, placing it in the red for the fifth straight month, the Central Bank reported Monday.

The bank's net currency reserves fell in May to \$1.698 billion, compared to \$2.249 billion in April, after reaching a high of \$3.034 billion in October 1994, the bank added.

The dip in reserves was sparked by a massive ex- ment imports for the coun-

DUBAL (R) - Qatar is

widely expected to issue

treasury instruments by the

end of this year to diversify

its sources of funds for cash-

strapped public finances and

a deficit budget, bankers in

the Gulf oil state say.

change of Lebanese pound deposits into U.S. dollars, despite interest rates of 18 per cent over two years. The balance of payments deficit reached \$504.5 million for the first five months of

this year. According to the central bank, the deficit is also due to a 20 per cent annual increase in imports. In March, the bank described the \$241 million deficit in the first quarter

as "seasonal" due to govern-

**Qatar expected to launch treasury** 

instruments in 1995

try's reconstruction after 15 years of war. The balance of payments had a surplus of \$1.13 billion in 1994, compared with \$1.16 billion in 1993. Lebanon be-

gan to register a surplus from

1992, two years after the 1975-1990 civil war. The bank did not report the country's trade balance, which is usually in deficit as Lebanon imports 85 per cent of its consumer goods. In

1994 its trade deficit was ab-

deficits had been aggravated by the sharp fall in foreign investment, "because investors are scared off by the worsening budget deficit (more than 60 per cent in 1994), public debt and waste.

A banking official said suc-

cessive balance-of-payments

out \$5 billion.

Public debt at the end of May stood at \$5.7 billion, of which \$830 million was external debt, according to the

#### "The fortuitous return to 201,000 bpd in May and Syria to unify pound's rates soon — sources

DAMASCUS (R) - Syria ments to pave the way for will soon issue new regula- unifying the pound's rates. tions to unify the various the Syrian nound against hard currencies, officials and economic sources

said on Monday. They did not give a date for the decision, eagerly awaited by the country's private and public sectors, but a senior official said:

The government adopted du ring the recent years a series of economic and financial measures and arrangeWe believe the date for this

rates creats many economic

the pound's rates have been made now...." an economic

Bassam Jaarah, head of the press office at the Council of Ministers, said the government supported the unification of the pound's rates because the existance of several

and financial complication. "I think most arrangements for the unification of

The Syrian pound has now three different values against

hard currencies: - An official rate of 11.2 pounds against one dollar which is used mainly in some official dealings and in payment for hotel rooms by tour-

A customs rate of 23 pounds against the dollar which is used in customs charges. A rate of \$11.2 is also used to cover the main

imported commodities and another one of \$42 is used to cover luxurious goods.

of 42 pounds for a dollar which is the widest used and which is the closest to the black market rate ranging between 48 to 50 pounds per dollar.

The decree made provi-Economic sources say the sions for treasury instrublack market rate has been ments, as well as company stable during the last three years and it has even strengshares, to be traded on the official market, which bankthened against the dollar reers expect to be set up later

(DSM).

this year. ... Word has been around for at least is months the government was looking at issuing treasury instruments such as T-bills (treasury

bills)," one said, adding:

"But we might finally see it Expectations of an early come true by the end of the issue of treasury instruments But government will not was heightened last week issue treasury bills or bonds when the emir, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thabefore it has set up an official ni, who ousted his father in a stock market, another banker said. "They are waiting for an palace coup in late June. issued a decree setting up the Doha Securities Market organised market before issuing treasury instru-

Currently the shares of 17 companies are traded informally in Qatar, which is reliant on small oil reserves but has embarked on an ambitious multi-billion dollar scheme to exploit one of the world's largest natural gas

Qatar and the United Arab Emirates are the only two of the six Gulf Arab states that have yet to use treasury bills and bonds to fund short or long-term government spend-

Bankers are not sure what maturities the new Qatari treasury instruments, when issued, will take,

Treasury bills could be used to finance government's short-term commitments, which are currently often met with borrowings from com-

mercial banks, they say. Bonds, in which a secondary market could develop on the DSM, would help government finance its budget deficit, which in fiscal 1995/6 was officially forecast at 3.5 billion riyals (\$961 mil-

lion) on spending of 12.7

billion rivals (\$3.5 billion) and revenues of 9.2 billion (\$2:5 billion).

IN the past the deficit has been financed either by drawing on government reserves. foreign borrowings or by simply delaying payments and transfering debts from one year to the next, they

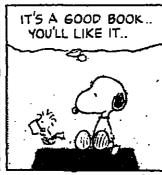
be short-term paper rather than bonds. All the long-term needs are financed from loans and the government doesn't need long-term financing," one banker said.

Another said a mix of Tbills and long bonds was like-

"It depends on market demand. Treasury paper would be used not only as a source of liquidity for the government but also as a way to develop the market itself."

## **Peanuts**









centiv.

## **Andy Capp**



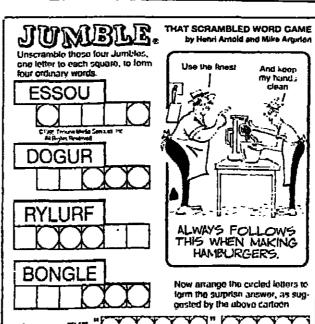


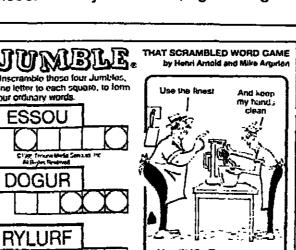
### Mutt'n'Jeff





"Over the years, we've become very close. When you overeat, I gain weight!"





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FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation GENERAL TENDENCIES: This morning finds a possible break up in old conditions but the evening conjunction of Mercury and Uranus opens the door to all sorts of new situations in which you can

effectively pioneer your point of view. ARTES: (March 21 to April 19) You have to be careful that someone does not get the best of you in some monetary matter today which could be detrimental to your finances.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) If you get your health and appearance improved, you will find it easier to gain your personal desires and get what you truly look forward to. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You feel restricted in some way, but if you calm down, you can handle the matter logically. Show some kindness for your loved ones.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your friends may be too busy at this time, so don't try to pressure them in any way. Be happy tonight and feel contented.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Be on your guard in the outside world so that you cannot be criticised in any way. Show your devotion to kin in the evening. VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Avoid going off on any

tangents, and don't make any unnecessary changes to your routine.

You should not confide any secret information to a stranger. LIBRA: (Septemb 23 to October 22) Use your own, mature judgement rather than consulting one who could not help you. Fix your wardrobe and be charming to your close friends, SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You could have a confrontation with one who is as stubborn as you are, so postpone

meeting for a while. Be very social later. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Get away from assignments if you can, but if not, be sure to do your fair share of it. Try to solve your private worries quickly.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Do not interfere if a disagreement starts between a friend and your enstwhile mate. Show that you are sensible towards others. AQUARTUS: (January 21 to February 19) Don't indulge in any disagreement with one who lives with you over some worldly affair. You seek peace and solitude in the evening.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) It is most important you use care in motion of all kind, especially on the roads. Be careful in correspondence, make sure words are correct. Birthstone of July: Ruby - Tiger's Eye

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## Cabinet allocates \$150m for electricity sector

inister of Energy and Mineral Resources Samih Darwazeh said the Cabinet decided to allocate \$150 million annually for generating electricity and purchasing equipment needed by the electricity sector. Mr. Darwazeh said the decision was taken in view of the rising demand for electricity, pointing out that the industrial sector's consumption of electricity has risen by 10 per cent and the domestic consumption by eight per cent. The minister said the Council of Ministers also approved a request by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources to purchase an electricity generation unit this month to produce electric energy and reduce the pressure on the operating units. He denied reports that Jordan was to face an energy crisis during the coming five-year period and said the cabinet's decision to buy generators and other equipment for \$150 annually will meet any rise in demand for electric energy. He said a delegation from his ministry will visit, Egypt later this month to 2 hold talks with Egyptian counterparts on the possibility of getting natural gas

\*\* The Slaughter House Department of the Greater Amman Municipality destroyed 1,100 heads of refrigerated livestock imported from Russia by airplane after they were found unfit for consumption. Department Director Othman Kilani said the quantity had been not stored properly in the country of origin which rendered it unfit for

consumption (Al Ra'i).

from Egypt to Agaba. He

said the Egyptian gas will

be used in operating elec-

tricity stations in the port

city (Al Aswaq).

\*\* Director General of the Agricultural Credit Corporation Mohammad Arabiyat on Sunday met with a delegation representing the International Fund Agricultural Development-(IFAD) for talks on the possibility of giving the ACC a role in a project to preserve water and soil carried out by IFAD. The delegation will visit the ACC's branches in Karak and Tafileh to become familiarised with as done at least strentury. New Zer gist Brad Jones he island burst of the Shoot near the progress achieved in projects financed by IFAD

(Al Ra'i). \*\* Jordan loses about JD 12 million annually because of livestock dying as a result of eating plastic bags scattered in pasture lands, according to Chairman of the Veterinarian Sciences Department at the Jordan University of Science and Technology Nabeel Heilat. Dr. Heilat said animals eating these bags suffer from symptoms similar to canrs after it will disappeared, va cer. He said of 300 surgeries operated on livestock last year, plastic bags were discovered inside 130 animals. He added that plastic material which contains polystyrene might be digested by animals, and this can threaten people who consume their meat (A)

## Debtors seek easier terms for bad debt repayments

to 45 per cent of the debt, or

an interest-free, 12-year

programme of annual pay-

most debtors will not have

the means to meet a Septem-

ber deadline. On Wednes-

day, it endorsed a controver-

sial bill that would give de-.

btors 20 years to repay their

dues in installments, or the

chance to pay them in five

annual installments starting

Mr. Al Sharhan said the

in September next year.

has promised that Israel will

not sign any accord until the

up in a fishing dispute be-tween Spain and Morocco.

Since oranges from the north

African country would be-

nefit from the same favour-

able terms granted to Israeli

citrus, Spain has decided not

to settle the orange dispute

left in Swiss banks by holo-

The relatives have been

thwarted by Switzerland's

notorious bank secrecy laws,

under which banks can refuse

to release account informa-

tion unless the depositors or

their heirs have specific docu-

mentation - often missing in

the case of holocaust victims.

value of the unclaimed

accounts range from tens of

millions of dollars to billions

Estimates of the current

Israel has gotten caught

issue is resolved.

But the government says

ments.

KUWAIT (AP) - Kuwaiti debtors said Sunday a government proposal designed to make it easier for them to repay some \$24 billion in bad debts was still unsatisfactory, and warned that it could lead to economic collapse. .

"We do not want to be treated unjustly and we need time to be able to repay," said Badr Al Sharhan, a businessman speaking for the assembly that calls itself the Economic Group subject to law 41/1993.

The debts, some owed by members of the ruling Al Sabah family, were incurred in a stock market crash 13 years ago and during a sevenmonth Iraqi occupation, which ended in February

Spain orange dispute stalls

TEL AVIV (R) - A dispute Minister Shimon Peres, who

the matter with Foreign until it resolves its problem

Swiss banks to investigate

holocaust victims' accounts

Israel-EU trade pact

with Spain over the entry

price of Israeli oranges is

holding up the signing of a

renewed economic accord

with the European Union,

Israeli Agriculture Minister

Yaacov Tsur said on Mon-

Mr. Tsur said Spain is

seeking an entry price that is

unacceptable to Israel and

added that he has discussed

TEL AVIV (AP) — Swiss

bank officials have agreed to

name an independent arbiter

to help restore thousands of

bank accounts opened by

Jews killed in the holocaust

to their rightful heirs, a Jeru-

The Jerusalem report, in

an issue published Tuesday,

said a formal announcement

The decision follows the

magazine's publication last

month of an article detailing

the obstacles faced by rela-

tives trying to claim money

is expected within weeks.

salem Magazine reported.

proposed amendments, just like the 1993 law, ignored the The central bank bought the debts from nine private fact that many debtors, espebanks after liberation. A cially those who suffered losses during the Iraqi occupa-1993 legislation gave the 10,400 debtors the choice of tion do not have the means to immediate repayment of up make these payments.

The amendments were expected to also spark a confrontation between the cabinet and the oppositiondominated parliament, which has to approve it.

The economic group wants debtors to be given a grace period of two years. Those who cannot repay, should have the option of settling their dues from their annual

profits, it says.
Mr. Al Sharhan warned that when Kuwaitis sell their assets in order to repay their

debts, prices in the stock and real estate markets will plummet and many businesses will collapse

Most legislatures disagree with the government plan, charging it would waste public funds at a time the emirate is struggling to close unprecedented budget deficits caused by low oil prices and the costs the Gulf war.

"This is a weird government we have," said Islamic deputy Nasser Al Saneh in a recent public session. "If a citizen is late paying his 100 dinar (\$333) telephone bill they disconnect his line.

But to someone who owes 100 million dinars (\$333 million), they say you can pay after 20 years.

#### EU fails to agree on cross-border banking rules

BRUSSELS (AFP) — Proposed regulations designed to increase consumer protection against overcharging and poor service by banks on crossborder mo ney transfers failed to win approval from EU finance ministers here on Monday.

The new rules, contained in a draft directive from the European Commission, were referred back to officials from further talks after the ministers failed to agree on a ceiling for automatic reimbursements.

The directive, if passed, would oblige banks to disclose all charges involved in a transaction and to guarantee that money reaches its destination account within five working days of it being sent.

If the target was not met or f money failed to arrive, consumers would be guaranteed full reimbursement.

This was rejected by Germany and Belgium, who called for a ceiling of 5,000 ECUs (\$6,500) on reimbursements, arguing that anything

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more would increase banks' costs through a need for higher capital backing to guarantee transfers.

Finland, Italy, Sweden and the U.K. all backed the commission's proposal, although they indicated they were willing to accept a 50,000 ECUs ceiling, as has been proposed by the European Parliament.

The Commission proposed EU-wide legislation last year after a three-year campaign failed to persuade the banks to clean up their act on a voluntary basis.

A commission study revealed that banks charged an average 25.4 ECUs to make an urgent transfer of 100 ECUs (\$130) and that even for such a small amount, the transaction took more than four days.

Charges were imposed on both receiver and sender of the money in 36 per cent of cases and only one in five banks could accurately predict how long thbe transfer would take.

#### AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET HOUSING BANK CENTER ANNAN - SHME TELEPHONE: 607171 / 607179 ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR HONDAY 10/07/1995 VALUE PREV. CLOSING NO. OF COMPANY'S NAME CLOSING PRICE JD PRICE TRADED 218.000 218.000 4.670 4.680 4.550 4.510 3.250 3.320 1.340 1.340 ARAB BANK PIC 280 35706 7893 4945 335 31785 595 1262 6045 JORDAN MATTONAL BANK CAIRO ANNAN BANK BANK OF JORDAN MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK 8.120 2.830 1.300 3.900 3.750 8.150 2.820 1.260 3.900 3.730 JORDAN GULF BANK ARAB JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK UNION BANK FOR SAVING & TRVESTMEN JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK 3010 150 10422 660 43013 2645 10734 78587 4.400 4.150 3.770 1.130 1.580 BEIT ELMAL SAVINGGINVESTMENT FOR HOUSING 700 9500 AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT 1.130 1.590 PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK. 50150 296505 INDEX NUMBER: 180.67 CHANGE : 0.002 92039 BANKS SECTOR 19773 2.650 · 2.680 3.200 3.040 3.100 3.000 7450 200 2000 JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE JORDAN GULF INSURANCE THE NATIONAL AHLIA INSURANCE 608 6000 3.200 3.100 INDEX NUMBER: 135.47 CHANGE : -0.12% 9650 26381 INSURANCE 53045 9627 8314 670 335 18537 1.680 2.940 2.210 1.030 31617 3328 3700 650 500 1.690 2.830 JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POMER JORDAN EXTIGNAL SHIPPING LINES EXTIGNAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT 2.290 1.030 .670 3.310 MACHINARY EQUIP. RENTING & MAINTENANCE .670 3.310 ARAB INTER. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION SERVICES SECTOR 45575 91435 INDEX NUMBER: 132.47 CHANGE : +0.12% 2480 16027 23192 6702 19554 1136 790 22932 ATTAMQUEP CONST. MATERIAL HAMUFACTURING THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES 2000 4260 7592 3.750 JORDAN PROSPRATE MINES JURDAN PRISPERSE RIRES THE ARAB, POTASH JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINARY THE HEDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL THE JORDAN WORSTED MILLS 1300 1902 345 100 4672 100 250 850 3550 600 3486 13512 3375 5.170 5.150 10.300 3.380 7.950 4.930 3.300 7.900 4.890 5.950 2.300 2.560 3.800 2.520 ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING JORDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES JORDAN DAIRY THE JURDAN PIPES MANUFACTURING JORDAN PAPER & CARDBOARD PACTORIES RAFIA INDUSTRIES DAR AL DARA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT ARAB INVESTMENT & INSKNATIONAL TRADE ADAR ALDMINIUM INDUSTRIES 595 575 2182 13490 1512 27727 10632 19315 6.000 2.350 2.610 3.800 2.520 8.000 .790 5.740 .520 1.390 1.170 ARAB ALUMINIUM INDUSTRY 10700 4400 1296 250 100 450 150 LIVESTOCK & POULTRY ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING NATIONAL INDUSTRIES .510 1.390 1.180 INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES 2.350 2.310 4.250 1.170 2.260 1.540 3.200 2.140 JORDAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES JORDAN ROCKHOOL INDUSTRIES 4.250 1.170 2.230 ARAB CENTER FOR PEARM. & CHEMICALS EAWTHER INVESTMENT UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES JORDAN INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES CO. 1,500 3,200 2,160 1305 JORDAN NEW CARLE COMPANY 3650 1.910 1.880 72425 199417 INDEX NUMBER: 130.85 INDUSTRIAL SECTOR CHANGE : -0.23z INDEX NUMBER: 156.10 219689 613737 GRAND TOTAL

Financial

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Correscy	New Voik Close the 7/1/95	Takyo Close   Trate 10/7/95
Sterling Pound	1.5965	1.5960*
Deutsche Mark	1.3923	1.3958
Swiss Franc	1.1582	1.1595**
French Franc	4.1535	4.8590*
Japanese Yen	\$6.15	87.55
European Curreny Unit	1.3290	1.3275**

USD IN STC

Lectant	decare		Date: 10	CLEALL	
Metal	USD/Oz	JU/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Cold	385.55	7.50	Silver	5.16	0.120

Date: 10/7/1995

Carrency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	9.6760	0,6980
Sterling Pound	1.1088	1.1143
Destuche Mark	0.4987	0:5012
Swiss Franc	0.6004	0.6034
French Franc	0.1433	0-1440
Јаранске Усп*	8.7950	0.7996
Duich Guilder	0.4453	0.4475
Swedish Kross	****	*****
itelian Lire*	0.0434	0.0436
Belgina Franc	satur	25164

Histor Correspondent	Date;	Date: 10/7/1795			
Currency	Dist.	Offer			
Bahraini Dissar	1.8300	1.8420			
Lebanese Ukra*	0.042085	0.045025			
Sendi Riyal	0.1852	0.1162			
Kewalit Dinas	2.2950	2.3550			
Qateri Riyal	0.1900	0.1912			
Egyptian Pound	0.1900	0.2160			
Omeni Riyal	J.1980	1.20			
ÚÁE Dirtem	0.1198	0.1888			
Greek Drachma*	0.2735	0.3275			
Cyprict Pound	1.4965	1.5450			

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Monday.

5.4340/90

\$1.5938/48

U.S. \$1.00 costs 1.3552/62 1.3958/68 1.5638/48 1.1600/10 28.67/71 4.8580/30 1614.0/9:0 87.15/25 7.2350/50 6.1990/40

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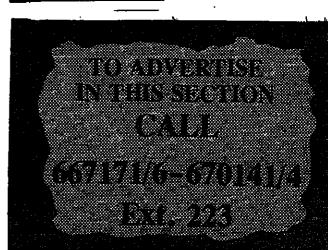














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## Navratilova wins 19th Wimbledon title

LONDON (R) - Martina Navratilova moved closer to Billie Jean King's all-time record of 20 Wimbledon titles when she won the mixed doubles with Jonathan Stark on Sunday - 2 player she had never met before the tournament started.

Navratilova and Stark, the third seeds, beat fourth seeds Cyril Suk of the Czech Republic and Gigi Fernandez of the U.S. 6-4 6-4 in just 59 minutes to give Navratilova her 19th Wimbledon title since her first in the women's doubles with Chris Evert in 1976.

Afterwards Stark, who had not even planned to play in the mixed doubles, said he decided to play after being contacted by Navratilova the night before the tournament

Her coach got in touch with a friend of mine and I found out someone called Martina wanted to play mixed with me," the American said.

Muster's

unbeaten

GSTAAD. Switzerland (AFP) — Australia's Tho-

mas Muster, the French

Open champion, lost his 40

clay court match unbeaten

record here on Monday beaten by Spaniard Alex Corretja 5-7, 1-6.

Muster who has shaken

off his popular image of

being a humourless dour

individual was graceful in

defeat saying: "I was

beaten by someone who

played better. He didn't

Although the courts here

are clay because they are at

altitude they play as fast as hardcourts and Muster

looked out of sorts. His

unbeaten run dating back to his defeat to another

Spaniard Emilio Sanchez at

Palermo last October

looked under threat from

Muster lost the first set

on a double fault and was

facing the humiliation of a

6-0 loss in the second set

but found the reserves to

serve out a love game. Cor-

retja held his nerve and

Muster admitted that los-

Corretja, ranked number

22 in the world, and a quarter-finalist in 1993

said: "I had a lot of respect

for Thomas, but I was not

afraid of him. You have to

go on court thinking that-

you can beat anyone."

ing after so long was hard to get used to: "This is a

serve to clinch it 6-1.

bad surprise."

the initial exchanges.

miss any of his chances.

run

ended

Navratilova said: "We met for the first time just before we walked on court together to play our first match. But we worked really well as a team, there were only one or two mix-ups in a couple of matches, but it has worked out fine.

Navratilova, who lost last year's final to Spaniard Conchita Martinez in her last singles match at Wimbledon, has now won the mixed doubles three times.

With her nine singles titles and seven women's doubles titles, she now needs to win just one more title to match King's record of 20 titles accumulated between 1961 and 1979. "Apart from when I won the singles title for

the ninth time. I never think about records, Navratilova said. Before this Wimbledon I had only played one match since last November and I've got

### no idea whether I will be back to play at Wimbledon next year." Uruguay go through to Copa America quarters

MONTEVIDEO (AFP) — Enzo Francescoli masterminded Uruguay's passage to the Copa America quarter-finals following a 1-0 win over clueless Paraguay here on

Though a mainly dour match, it was sprinkled with touches of class including the goal by the former South American footballer of the year in the 14th minute. Meanwhile Mexico notched up their first win of the tournament — a 3-1 victory over nine-man Venezuela in the other Group A match at Maldonado.

Striker Luis Garcia hit two penalties and Missael Espinoza got the other for Mexico. Venezuela thanked an own goal from Jorge Luis Campos for their sole score. Uruguay, playing on a poorly prepared pitch, still managed to show skilful play and 33-year-old striker Francescoli converted the best of them.

He started the eventual scoring more the centre circle, passing to AS Roma's Daniel Fonseca.

Fonseca took the ball down the left before floating the ball into the area. Francescoli took the ball on his chest with back to goal, twisted and shot first time just inside the right hand post.

Paraguay lacked a visible game plan as twice World Cup winners Uruguay controlled the match during the first half. But both sides had problems keeping their footing on a badly turfed pitch marked by huge divots.

Francescoli, former Cagliari and Torino striker, had another shot from the edge of the box on target, but Paraguay keeper Ruben Diaz got his fingertips to it and put it round the post.

Uruguay brought inter Milan's Ruben Sosa on at half-time to give extra punch up front.

But Uruguay hardly needed it as they continued their

first half domination. Fonseca nearly scored midway through the second period, but his left-foot volley hit first time was smothered by keeper Diaz.

Minutes later coach Hector Nunez and home supporters had a scare as Francescoli turned his ankle and was stretchered off the pitch.

While Francescoli was still having treatment. Sergio Martinez, a leading scorer in the Argentinian league, came on as substitute for Fonseca.

Paraguay took advantage of the shake-up in Uruguay's ranks to force their best chance of the match. Carlos Gamarra's looping header hit the crossbar with the keeper well beaten.

Francescoli returned for a few moments, but, with his ankle still bothering him, was replaced by Marcelo Saralegui for a scrappy last 20 minutes.

Nunez had urged home fans to be patient in the early matches, but his caution proved unnecessary as they now top Group A with the maximum six points from two games.

Uruguay beat Venezuela 4-1 in their opening match on Wednesday on their way to a possible 11th Copa America title. Paraguay, who beat Mexico 2-1 in their first match,

are also set to qualify. Meanwhile, in the other match. Mexico went ahead in

the 41st minute. Luis Garcia hit a well-timed pass to Espinoza, who ran into the box before Jesus Valbuena clipped his ankle for a clear spot kick.

## Sampras and Graf defy winds of change

LONDON (R) — At first glance, Wimbledon '95 was an almost exact replica of Wimbledon '93. Pete Sampras won the men's singles title, Steffi Graf collected the women's crown and not a drop of rain was recorded during the fortnight.

Sampras, as he did two years ago, won in four sets, while Graf won a third-set thriller just as she had on the same centre court against Jana Novotna 24 months ear-

Even those men's doubles experts Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde prompted a sense of deja vu, winning their title for a third straight year to emulate that other great Australian pairing John Newcombe and Tony Roche.

The similarities also extended to the British crowds who still seem as reluctant as ever to take Sampras to their hearts, preferring instead to encourage losing men's finalist Boris Becker to do a lap of honour. It was Sampras's third title,

not to mention Graf's sixth, but lurking just beneath the surface were unmistakeable signs not everything in the tennis world is as cosy as it

The latter rounds disguised the issues but the perennial problems of dominant big servers amongst the men and a lack of depth amongst the women still remain.

Andre Agassi's semifinal defeaty by Becker ensured the tournament was again at the mercy of the power merchants, the only blow for the defence being Goran Iva-nisevic's defeat to Sampras in the semifinal despite serving

Heavier balls designed to slow the game down made little apparent difference and the men's locker-room had a worrying glimpse of the future in the shape of Belgian Dick Norman, another giant to be reckoned with on grass. Graf's semifinal against

Novotna and final against Arantxa Sanchez Vicario were fine examples of women's tennis at its best. but they did follow a heavy diet of one-sided contests.

All four to seeds in the men's and women's singles progressed safely to the semifinals in both events for the first time in Wimbledon history, but Sanhez Vicario argues the tournament was a turning point on the women's

"I think it means a lot for women's tennis and shows it is improving. There has been a lot of talking in the past ... it's good for us."

this particular Wimbledon. though, the names Jeff Tarango and Murphy Jensen

will not be far away. Tarango's extraordinary outsurst at umpire Bruno Rebeuh, which ended in a walkout and the official being slapped by Tarango's wife. could yet land him a lengthy suspension from the game. Jensen, who attracted wide

For now, normal life goes

publicity when he went missing before a mixer doubles match, was also to blame for dragging the players' reputation down a notch - as was Britain's Tim Henman, defaulted for hitting a ball in anger which accidentally struck a ballgirl.

The ever-popular Becker, though, believes Sampras's example should balance the

"If there is one role model in tennis it is Pete Sampras. He's behaving perfectly on the court, he's a real nice fellow off the court and he's playing great tennis. He doesn't really have a bad shot in his game. He's definitely extremely good for tennis."

Becker believes Sampras,

not Agassi, should now be considered the world number one whatever the computer says, but while he does not rule out his own chances of winning another major, he' believes the game is changing "These guys just don't give

you a chance. You have to somehow scramble to get into a tie-breaker or convert your first break point because you don't get any more.

"McEnroe was a genius at the net and he had a great feel for the ball, but he wasn't flaying with that kind of pow-

"It's a completely different game now than it was. I'm giad I've managed to play both ... to experience that is something I'm going to tell my kid about.

The question the tennis world continues to ask is whether Monica Seles will discover more has changed than she bargained for when she returns to the fray.

Her weekend statement she "hoped" to play in the U.S. Open — she is committed to an exhibition with Martina Navratilova on July 29 in Atlantic City - has been slightly clouded by the fact there is still no agreement on a framework for her return.

The players have not de-cided whether she should be granted a joint number one ranking for an initial period of potentially six months and Navratilova, for one, is unimpressed.

"The players are not willing to give back to her what they gained from her absence she said.

"Monica might say forget it, I'll go in as a wild card. I wouldn't blame her one bit if she said she didn't want any special considerations.'

Navratilova would also not be surprised if Seles answered all her critics at the U.S. Open.

one s 22 ... two years away from the game is not that big a dal. I wouldn't be shocked if she won it."

Seles herself summed up the situation neatly. "I think women's tennis can survive without Monica and Monica can survive without tennis, she said at the weekend. "But we're both better off with each other.



Boris Becker

on. Sampras has already been installed as 5-4 favourite to retain his title in 1996, with Steffi Graf 6-4 favourite to keep the women's version. For the bookies at least, nothing changes. Sampras wins but Muster has

more money: Tennis fan Princess Diana left her only Wimbledon appearance until the final day and watched Pete Sampras beat Boris Becker in the final. With movie star Tom

Cruise sitting not far away with his actress wife Nicole Kidman, the royals did their own share of star-gazing.
Princess Michael spotted the top gun star in the crowd

and passed the word to the others in the royal box. Princess Diana bent forward and lowered her sunglasses to get a better look at the couple. Other guests in the royal bix included Juan Antonio

Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee; the U.S. ambassador to Britain, Admiral William J. Crowe Jr., and the German ambassador, Dr. Juergen Oesterheit.

★ Wimbledon sizzles again: The temperature on centre court for the men's final on the last day of the tournament was 95 degrees (35 C) as Wimbledon enjoyed one of its sunniest ever tournaments.

It was the second rainles Wimbledon in three years but only the fifth since records began in 1922. On the first Friday of the

championships, the temperature-rose to 106.5 (41.38 c). the highest recorded in the Open era. The only rain that fell was during the evening of the middle Sunday, when there is no play.

**☆Nervous Beckers:** Boris Bekcer knew there were at least four people more nervous than he was on Centre Court when he faced Pete Sampras in the Wimbledon

They were his wife, Bar-bara, who spent much of the match with her eyes closed or with her head in her hands. his parents, who rarely smiled, and his older sister, Sabine.

"She gets real nervous. too," the former three-time champion said after his 6-7 (7-5), 6-2, 6-4, 6-2 loss to

"My whole family basically can't watch all the matches. They would get a heart

attack. The problem, Becker feels. is as much about him winning as losing. The German, who first won as an unseeded 17year-old 10 years ago, attracted a huge following at Wimbledon and that creates huge pressure on his family.

They get more emotional. or they get more nervous than I'am, because I am in the middle. I'm in my concentration and I don't think too much about what could happen if I win," he said.

But all the close family and friends, they know what it's going to be like if you're going to win that thing

🌣 It's true, Brits triumph at Wimbledon: The Brits usually don't have much to cheer about on court at Wimbledon. But they wound up with a title Sunday when Martin Lee and James Trotman won the boys' singles. Lefthander Lee and Trot-

man came back from 1-5 down in the final to beat Mexico's Alejandro Hernandez and Mariano Puerta of Argentina, 7-6 (7-2), 6-4.

The loud cheers for a rare British victory at Wimbledon even got noticed on neighbouring centre court where Pete Sampras beat Boris Becker in the men's final. During the match, Becker, who was losing at the time, remarked to the crowd that someone must have been having more success than he

Britain has not won the men's title since Fred Perry triumphed for the third time in 1936. Perry died age 85 in February this year. The last British woman to win a wimbledon singles title was Virginia Wade in 1977 although Jeremy Bates and Jo Durie teamed up to win the mixed doubles in 1987.

Arantxa gains consolation win: Spain's Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, beaten in the Wimbledon women's singles final by Steffi Graf gained quick compensation winning the womens doubles

Playing alongside Czech Jana Novotna, beaten by Graf in the semi-finals, they beat top-seeds and defending champions Gigi Fernandez of

the United States and Natasha Zvereva of Belarus

5-7, 7-5, 6-4. The two teams had been level at 4-4 in the third set on

Saturday when fading light stopped play. Fernandez and Zvereva

had been bidding for their

fourth consecutive victory in the event. ☆ Sampras gets inspiration from Gullikson: Pete Sampras's coach and mentor Tim Gullikson was too ill to share his joy in person on Sunday but the champion derived inspiration from Gullikson's twin brother shouting in the

crowd. A beaming Sampras, who downed Boris Becker 6-7 6-2 6-4 6-2 in the final, heard Tom Gullikson urging him

"It sounded just like Tim When I heard him say 'pistol', I really knew it was him. It was really good to have him there, Sampras said.

Tim. who nicknames Sampras 'pistol pete' is currently undergoingf chemotherapy in the United States for a Brain Tumour and cannot travel.

But his identical twin, who used to play doubles with him on the men's circuit, has followed Sampras's matches throughout the tournament, helping out stand-in coach Paul Annacome.

"We have both dealt with Tim's situation in a very public way. He's been hanging out for the last couple of weeks and he has helped me out with my tennis and just to have him there to have that support really felt good," Sampras said.

Sampras broke down and wept on court during the Australian Open earlier this year after Tim had collapsed. But he said on Sunday that Tim, whom he spoke to

directly after his victory, was in good spirits and hoping to do some travelling by the end of the year. "I really dedicated this win to Tim because he's a true champion today. The way he

has handled his treatment is iust an inspiration," he said. The pair have talked on the telephone every day, discussing the match just played and looking forward to the

Sampras, the first man since Bjorn Borg to win the title three times in a row, is an undemonstrative character and unlikely to paint the town red in victory.

He said he was craving some junk food, but otherwise he would go home and rest by the pool and play a little golf. He has often been criti-

cised for his apparent lack of personality on court and the crowd was noisily behind Becker throughout the final. But he was adamant he

would not change his style or ever want to swap his title for Becker's reception from the public.
"I'm not going to throw tantrums or act like a jerk out

there. That's the way I was brought up and that's the way I will continue to be."



#### **GOREN BRIDGE**

What do you bid now?

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold: •764 KQ10953 Q3 +A8 Q.2-Both vulnerable, at South hold:
4764 KQ10953 Q3 4A8
The bidding has proveeded:
North East South West
1 Pass 1 Pass
1 NT Pass 7

you hold

•7 AJ92 84 •AK10765

The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East

1 • Pass 1 Pass What action do you take?

Q.3-Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: you held:

•A6 172 J98543 •AEQ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 Pass 1 Pass
2 Pass 3 Pass What action do you take?

Q.4-As South, vulnerable, you \*AK65 '- KJ5 '- A8 \*KJ93 The hidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 + Pass 1 Pass

What do you hid now"

Q.6-Neither tulnerable as South voi hold. 47 KJ9542 K987 474 The bidding has proceeded North East South West I NT Pass 7 What do you hid row.

Q.G.—Both vulnerable, as South with 60 on score you hold eVoid AK74 KQJ106 \$AQ62 Your right-hand apportent opens the hidding with one heart. What do you had now?

## Marseille accused of buying all 5 league title

PARIS (AFP) — Olympique ---Marseille bought five or six matches a season in their five-year reign in French football, the disgraced club's former general manager Jean-Pierre Bernese has told fraud investigators. France Soir newspaper reported on

Bernes has allegedly told examining magistrate Pierre Philippon that 30 million francs (six million dollars) from advertising revenue was spent on buying match re-ferces, coaches or players from 1989 to 1993.

However, fraud squad investigators said in 1994 that 80 million francs (16 million dollars) could not be accounted for in the Olympi-que Marseille books.

Former club owner Bernard Tapie denied the allega-tions and threatened to sue.

The 51-year-old Tapie is appealing against a two year jail term, one year suspended, for ordering Bernes to fix a match against Valen-ciennes in 1993 which clinched Marseille' fifth consecutive league title.

Marseille beat AC Milan 1-0 in the European Cup Final five days later but were barred from defending their title and later demoked to the French second division when they went into receivership. **VFaisal** win 9th Jordan Cup

B g Jordan Time Staff Reporter Mild their fourth come and record nin (up when they

ranch of the composite bed at Petra Stadio Hanns were bidd Runths were bited
I Runths Napstriker Jirves I: leted a bet-trick second half while itea second half while itea self far frammad acco gels is comman seed the

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gram Cub record

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SAING, Beigium (R) and France king Migra man moved a step clos a emprecedented fif Metalive tour triuming the son Sunday's or aghth stage, an im-lating-thal, to captu-werall lead. lading effortless despiting beat, the mighty Sp Monered the demandi Mathe country side ne logical city of Liege boar four minutes the to take the covered from Beign and Bruyneel.

s breaking away wi angel to take secon stand climb eight piace in as his previous pe SEMI-VILLA FOR RENT

Edman had sounded say with a brilliant ris sauday is seventh stage.

(ABDOUN) large salon. lwing dining (1st floor) 3 bedrooms (2nd floor). Nice view. el: 862008 HO AGENTS

CINEM PHI SI  $W_{\mathbf{L}}$ 

Shc#2: :2

## tates and of Belanus third set on fading light

nd Zvereva ig for their ve victory in 's inspiration Pete Sam. mentor Tim o ill to share

1 on Sunday n derived in-Gullikson's outing in the ımpr≥s. who ecker 6-7 6-2 final. heard urging him

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s later but were

defending their demoked to the 1 division when o receivership.

Al Faisali win 9th Jordan Cup

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Al Faisali Monday won their fourth consecutive and record ninth Jordan Cup when they up-set Al Ramtha 4-0 in the final match of the competition held at Petra Stadium in Al Hussein Youth City. Al Ramtha were bidding for the country's second most important soccer title after finishing in the runner up position for the past two years. However, the country's top striker, Jiryes Tadros, completed a hat-trick in the second half while teammate Ja'far Hammad added another goal to seal their team's win in the 16th Jordan Cup.

Al Ramtha were the titleholders in 1990. The other final round qualifiers were Al Hussein who clinched their first major title when they won the 1994 Federation Shield and Al Arabi who have a modest record and were the winners in

In the final round, Al Ramtha had crushed Al Arabi 6-0, while At Faisali also beat Al Arabi 2-8 and had a goalless draw with Al

Twenty eight teams from the first division and the Premier League entered the Jordan Cup Cup. The most surprising result was Premier League champions Al Wihdat's elimination by Al Baqaa.

Jordan Cup record

Runners up in brackets)

1980 ...... Faisali (Baqaa) 1981 ..... Faisali (Ramtha) 1982 ..... Wihdat (Ahli) 1983 ..... Faisali (Ramtha) 1984 ..... Jazireh (Ahli) 1985 ..... Wihdat (Faisali) 1986 ...... Arabi (Jazireh) ..... Faisali (Hussein) 1988 ...... Wihdat (Faisali) . Faisali (Ramtha) 1996 ..... Ramtha (Hussein) Ramtha (Wihdat) .... Faisali (Wihdat) ..... Faisali (Ramtha)

1994 ..... Faisali (Ramtha)

SERAING, Belgium (R) — Tour de France king Miguel

Indurain moved a step closer

to an unprecedented fifth

consecutive tour triumph

when he won Sunday's cru-

cial eighth stage, an indi-

vidual time-trial, to capture

Looking effortless despite

stifling heat, the mighty Spa-

niard covered the demanding

54 km in the countryside near

the Belgian city of Liege in

one hour four minutes 16 seconds to take the coveted

yellow jersey from Belgian

Indurain had sounded a

warning with a brilliant ride

in Saturday's seventh stage to

Liege, breaking away with

Bruyneel to take second

place and climb eight places

tating as his previous per-

SEMI-VILLA

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While not quite as devas-

up to second overall.

the overall lead.

Johan Bruyneel.

to seize yellow jersey

Paul Gascoigne (left) and David Platt in an England match (File photo)

## Gascoigne completes move to Rangers

Wilkins, Chris Woods and

Terry Butcher and the cur-

rent team is full of interna-

dozen pre-season games will help tune him up for a Euro-

pean Cup preliminary round

with Rangers on August 9.

my football. That is what it is

many games it will take for

me to feel fully fit but we

have seven or eight pre-

season ones coming up. I

Rangers' manager Smith

said: "L feel Paul's type of

midfield player will be of

great benefit to us and that's

why I wanted to sign him."

"We did well in a European

Cup three years ago and

have suffered disappoint-

ments in the past two sea-

tions lie but we also want to

win 10 titles in a row in

Scotland. We are delighted to

That is where our amoi-

Chairman Murray said:

hope that will be enough.

"I"ve come here to enjoy

about. I don't know how

Gascoigne insists half a

tional players," he added.

GLASGOW (AFP) - Paul Gascoigne returned to British football in the biggest-ever deal involving a Scottish club when he completed his 4.3 million pounds move (about seven million dollars) to Scottish Champions Glasgow Rangers from Italian club Lazio on Monday.

Gazza-mania greeted the 28-year-old injury-plagued England midfielder when he arrived to a huge welcome at Ibrox Stadium with a couple of thousand Rangers' fans turning out to salute their club's new signing.

The deal is the biggest ever by a Scottish club and a statement of European Cup intent by Ibrox chairman David Murray and manager Walter

Gascoigne admitted: "I knew Rangers was a very big club and the ground is already a sell-out every week but seeing this kind of welcome excites me.

"I trained with the lads this morning and I'm already very excited about this move. "I've followed some great

formances in time trials. In-

durain's masterful display on

Sunday was good enough to

give him control before Mon-

day's rest day and the tough

Alpine stages which follow.

Riis of Denmark came close

to staging a major upset when

he clocked the fastest time

after 49 kilometres. But he

was exhausted when he

reached the final climb and

ended the stage in second place 12 seconds slower than

All eyes were on world

hour record holder Tony

Rominger of Switzerland, re-

garded as one of the few men

capable of depriving Indurain

of victory in Paris, but he

34-year-old veteran could do

no better than third, 58

seconds behind the Spaniard.

Indurain.

Former race leader Bjarne

sign Paul and we have a lot of belief in him. England players who've Gascoigne becomes Rangers' club record signing with 4.3 million pound fee **Tour de France** exceeding the four million pounds paid two years ago to **Indurain beats clock** Dundee United for Duncan

Ferguson, now of Everton. Gazza will leave with Rangers for a three-match tour of Denmark at the end of the week and is likely to make his debut against Brondby on

July 21. Homel fans will see him take his Ibrox bow at the Rangers International Tournament on July 29-30 when his former club Tottenham are among the visi-

Gascoigne had an unhappy time at Lazio particularly under the authoritarian coaching style of Zdenek Zeman. They fell out over which position suited Gascoigne and a move became

inevitable. Although he was popular with the fans it was noticeable that his proposed sale did not incite the fans into the hysterical reaction that followed the news that their leading striker Italian international Giuseppe Signori was being sold to Parma which was subsequently can-

celled. Gascoigne's greatest moment was scoring the winner in the Rome Derby in the 1993-94 season."

Career details of Paul Gascoigne

Newcastle on May 27. ##1983: Joins Newcastle

United as an apprentice. ★ 1985: Football league debut for Newcastle against QPR. Totals 106 League and Cup appearances for the club, scoring 22 goals.

★ 1988: Signed by Tottenham for two million pounds and makes debut in 2-2 draw back at St James' Park on Sept 6. First England cup 11 days later in 1-0 win against Denmark at Wemb-

★ 1989: First England goal in 5-0 World Cup win over Albania at Wembley.

\$1990: Bursts into tears in the pitch during World Cup semi-final with West Germany after booking which would have ruled him out of final. England lose to the Germans on penalties anyway but crying earns Gazza

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#### ded months of speculation about his future on Monday when he joined Arsenal in a 4.75 million pound (about \$7.5 million) move from Ita-

The Gunners' new manager Bruce Rioch cut short a holiday in Portugal and rushed to Italy to sign the 29-year-old midfielder.

Rioch will now team Platt with his other big Italian im-port, Dennis Bergkamp, the Dutch striker he bought for 7.5 million pounds from Inter

year spell in Italy for Platt who was considering a new two-year offer to stay at Sampdoria — a decision closely monitored by a host of top English clubs including champions Blackburn and his former club Manchester Un-

But the former Aston Villa star jumped at Arsenal's offer when Rioch made it clear much he was wanted at

Highbury. Platt said: "Everything has happened far more quickly than I had anticipated mainly because Arsenal made it clear that they really wanted

#1991: Lasts just 17 mi-

nutes of FA Cup final after

rupturing cruciate knee liga-

ments in reckless challenge

on Nottingham Forest's Gary

Charles. Injury holds up move to Italian Club Lazio

and career appears in fresh

doubt after further surgery

following injuries sustained

in a nightclub fight back

☆ 1992: Finally completes

5.5 million pound move to

Lazio after passing stringent

medical and makes Serie A

debut against Genoa in

by belching into a TV mic-rophone when asked how he

feels about being dropped by

his Italian club. Disappoint-

ing display against San Mari-

no prompts manager Graham

Taylor to speculate that Gaz-

za may have a "refuelling problem." Reports back to

azio after summer break in

England heavily overweight. # 1994: Breaks a leg in

training ground accident, putting him out of the game

for a year. Splits up with

fiancee Shervi Kyle and later

1995: Lazio fans give him a

Comeback but club make it

clear they are happy to let

him leave - sparking the

interest of several clubs in

First England appearance

for 15 months in 2-1 win over

Signs for Rangers in July for club-record 4.3 million.

standing ovation as he makes

admits to having hit her.

his long-awaited.

Japan at Wembley.

1993 Provokes outrage

 □

home in Newcastle.

Rome.

"My talks with Brucek Rioch were exceptional. We hit it off straight away. He is great communicator with some exciting ideas on tactics and a definite view on how he sees my fitting into his

Rioch said: "I'm delighted to sign a player of David's calibre. I have admired him for a long time and through these discussions with him I have been very impressed by his knowledge, ambition and desire.

Platt had talks with Sampdoria's captain Roberto Mancini holidaying in the same Sardinian village about the promising young players that were coming through but Rioch's talks ended his inde-

Sampdoria have indulged in a major clear out after their disappointing season failing to clinch a place in Europe. Their gamble on exchanging Italian first choice goalkeeper Gian Luca Pagliuca to Inter Milan for the ageing talents of his predecessor Walter Zenga and Italia 90 central defender Riccardo Ferri failed to pay di-

Career details of David Piatt

ter Manchester on June 10.

★ 1984: Joins Manchester United as an apprentice but fails to make the grade and is given a free transfer by manager Ron Atkinson. Snapped up by Dario Gradi at lowly

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## **Arsenal land Platt** for \$7.58 million

England boss Graham Taylor

for Aston Villa for 200,000

pounds after developing into

goalscoring midfielder, scor-

ing 53 goals in 134 appear-

★ 1989: Makes England

debut as substitute in 0-0

draw against Italy at Wemb-

ances for Crewe.

LONDON (AFP) — England captain David Platt enlian giants Sampdoria.

by Robson's World Cup squad and scores brilliant winner against Belgium in last minute of extra-time in second round match. Also scores in quarter-final victory Milan just three weeks ago. Monday's deal ends a fourover Cameroon and 3rd/4th place play-off defeat by Italy.

Fellow professionals vote him Player of the Year. ★ 1991: Sold to Italian club Bari for 5.5 million pounds \* 1995; Joins after scoring 50 goals in 121 4.75 million deal.

league games for Villa.

# 1992: Becomes Britain's most expensive footballer by moving from Bari to Juventus for 6.5 million pounds. Scored 12 goals in 28 Serie A matches for Bari but failed to

prevent them being rele-

 1993: Captains England for first time against San Marino at Wembley and scores four goals in 6-0 win. Joins Sampdoria for 5.2 mil-: lion, taking combined transfer fees to world record 17.4

gland captain by Terry Venables following his appointment as national coach. Scores 24th goal in his 50th international in 1-0 victory over Nigeria at Wembley.

★ 1995; Joins Arsenal in

## Major League Results

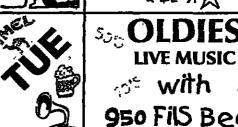
NEW YORK (R) - Results on Major League Baseball games played on Sunday (home team in caps)

	Nationa	al League	
Chicago Pittsburgh Cincinnati Florida San Diego Colorado Atlanta	7 6 8 6 9 4 3	Philadelphia New York Los Angeles St Louis Houston Montreal San Francisco	6 (in 13) 3 0 0 2
	Nation	al League	2
Seattle Detroit Baltimore Boston Texas Milwankee Toronto	9 4 11 7 5 9 7	Kleveland Kansas City Chicago Minnesota New York California Oakland	3 2 2 0 4 (in 12) 7



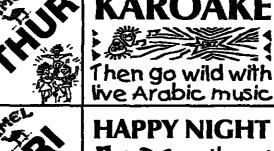




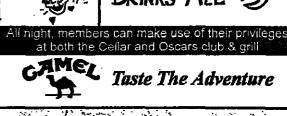












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Mrs Doubtfire Shows: 3:30, 5:30, 11

CONCORD "2"

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play for the youth Between two sidewalks Daily at 5:00 p.m.

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KABARET

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Shows will start July 3, 1995 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays shows will feature the play Arab Summit and Peace and on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays shows will feature the play (Ahlan Tatbee') Welcome Normalisation

Shows start at 8.30 p.m. For reservation please call tel. 625155 Amman

## Serbs attack safe areas; France offers U.N. help

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Bosnian Serbs attacked two U.N. safe areas in eastern Bosnia on Monday in defiance of a U.N. call to cease its attacks on the Srebrenica enclave or face possible airstrikes, U.N. officials said.

France offered combat helicopters to the U.N. force in Bosnia to come to the aid of beleaguered Dutch peacekeepers in Srebrenica where Bosnian Serb tanks and infantry threaten the safe

Thirty Dutch troops armed with heavy machine guns and anti-armour weaponry have been deployed with four armoured personnel carriers to block the main southern approach road leading into Srebrenica in western Bos-

The U.N. has issued an ultimatum to the Bosnian Serbs whose tanks are just 500 metres away stating that North Atlantic Treaty Organistion (NATO) warplanes will be called in if the peacekeepers are attacked.

The Serbs were also asked to cease their offensive on the enclave and release 30 Dutch peacekeepers seized over the weekend as Serb infantry pushed deep into the pocket. Despite this warning. Serb forces continued to shell the

town Monday and kept up sporadic morter and heavy machine gun fire on another U.N. designated safe area, the nearby government-held enclave of Zepa.

Bosnian radio reported seven dead in Monday's shelling of Srebrenica and government officials said 21

CAIRO (Agencies) — Sudan on Monday denied Egyptian allegations that it tried to

smuggle bomb-making mate-

rial through Cairo interna-

It also accused Egypt of violating international codes

when it searched a diplomatic

pouch Sunday and then ac-

cused a Sudanese diplomat of

failing to declare telecom-

What the Egyptian au-

thorities did is a dangerous

violation of the oldest di-

plomatic rules, which protect

making up accusations

against Sudan with no proof.

but then it came out with this

new naive story," it added.

foiled a Sudanese attempt to

smuggle bomb-making mate-

rial through Cairo to Egyp-

tian extremists in Sudan. Air-

port authorities also

announced the discovery of

the telecommunications

On Sunday, Egypt said it

munications equipment.

tional airport.

explosions close to a U.N. compound in the town caused no injuries.

"If repeated, sustained and systematic attacks' continue. it will lead us to consider the option of using NATO air power in this instance as well," said U.N. Lieutenant-Colonel Gary Coward.

The warning was repeated by U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali, who held a weekend meeting with top U.N. military commanders and civilian officials.

According to the mandate of the United Nations we are ready in case of need to use the air force with the cooperation of NATO," Dr. Ghali said. "The mandate we have received is to protect different enclaves.

But Bosnian government officials showed increasing frustration with the ineffectiveness of U.N. forces to protect the so-called "safe

Hajrudin Avdic, a Srebre-nica city official, issue a veiled threat, saying that if U.N. troops do not intervene in Srebrenica, he could not "guarantee their security on these territories." He warned that Dutch peacekeepers in the enclave might be block-

"If a slaughter happens to us, I don't think they (peacekeepers) would get by so easily," he said.

A Dutch patrol travelling in an armoured personnel carrier to the west of the town was attacked Monday bу Bosnian government troops with small arms and grenades. The badly dam-

smuggle subversion material

equipment.
On Monday, Egyptian security officials said they

had intercepted yet another shipment destined for Egyp-

tian extremists in Sudan.

They said it contained 155

certificates of military ser-

vice, 240 identification pap-

ers and a number of travel

permits — all blank forgeries

two cardboard boxes -

which were shown on Egyp-

tian television — also in-

cluded computer disks, video

The three metal cases and

of Egyptian documents.

Sudan denies it tried to

aged vehicle veered off the road, but the crew were not seriously hurt and were rescued by another Dutch unit, Col. Coward reported.

The government-held northeastern Tuzla, meanwhile, up to 100 refugees from Srebrenica gathered outside a U.N. base and warned they would block the compound unless U.N. soldiers stopped Serb attacks on their hometown and returned to their observation posts.

For their part, rebel Serbs failed to respond Monday to U.N. demands to release the detained peacekeepers and withdraw from positions they captured inside the Srebrenica enclave since Thursday, when the Serb offensive be-

Twenty peacekeepers were taken to Serb-held Bratunac, north of the Srebrenica enclave, and 10 were in a Serbheld village to the south. Col. Coward said the United Nations was in radio contact

with all the detained soldiers. The aid agency Medecins sans Frontieres (MSF), which has international staff in Srebrenica, said the town's hospital had reached "saturation point" caring for some 50 wounded civilians 10 of whom had since died. Several needed limbs amputated.

A statement issued in Paris by MSF said local medical teams were working non-stop to cope with the influx of injured. Most of the injuries were caused by shrapnel, MSF said.

U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) officials condemned Monday's attacks.

leased, but police described

him as a "terrorist" leader

hiding in Pakistan and

travelling between Yemen and Sudan.

agency announced Sunday

the seizure of a cargo "com-

ing from an Asian country.

destined for Khartoum via

Cairo, and containing docu-

ments and equipment used by

According to the agency,

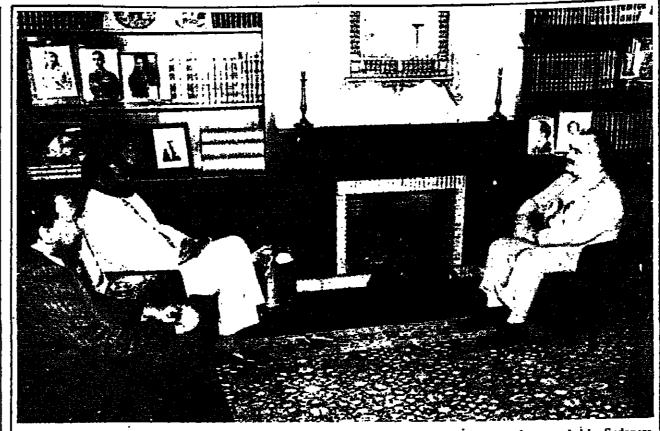
these documents contained

information on weapons and

explosives, the use of

terrorists in Sudan."

The official MENA news



SUDANESE MESSAGE: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Monday receives Sudanese Minister of State Mahdi Ibrahim (centre), who delivered to him a message from President Omar Hassan Al Bashir to His Majesty King Hussein, in a meeting attended by Sudanese Ambassador to Jordan Ali Abdul Rahman Numeiri (see page one) (Petra photo)

## Israeli shelling injures 2 in Lebanon

In retaliation, about 30

Katyusha rockets fired by

guerrillas fell on Israel's

Galilee region on Sunday,

forcing Jewish communities

into bomb shelters for a

The rockets fell in fields in

western Galilee and caused

on injury or damage. Israeli

gunners fired back at Hizbul-

lah positions in South Leba-

non, military officials said. The Arab League on Mon-

day expressed "great con-

cern" over Israeli attacks on

condemns the continued flag-

rant attacks on south Leba-

non, which are a clear viola-

tion of all Security Council

The Arab League strongly

Lebanese civilians.

second night.

TYRE (Agencies) - Heavy Israeli artillery fire wounded two young girls on Monday as dozens of shells rained on villages in Southern Lebanon, police said.

The two girls were hurt in the area of Zibqin facing the western edge of Israel's selfdeclared "security zone" along the two countries' bor-

Two teenaged sisters were killed on Saturday when an internationally banned darts shell fired by Israeli tanks slammed into their house in Nabatiyeh, also north of the occupied zone. Five people were wounded.

U.N. spokesman in Lebanon Timor Gukeel told the Israeli daily Maariv that at least one cluster bomb banned under the Geneva Convention had been used in Saturday's attack.
He said U.N. Secretary

General Boutros Ghali had been informed.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin criticised Saturday's attack as "super-

wants Sharia

murder, imposed across

Somaha to bring law and

order to the anarchic coun-

Mogadishu radio, which

supports Mr. Ali Mahdi,

quoted him late on Sunday as

Islamic Sharia law is the only

way out of the present econo-

mic and socio-political prob-

He made this call during

talks with religious leaders in the northern enclave of

Mogadishu which is control-

led by his militias and where

Sharia courts have been func-

Sharia has become popular

among many Somalis because

the harsh system of punish-

ments has helped drive off

the streets armed thugs who

have terrorised people since

the country collapsed into

But Sharia has been

opposed by Mr. Ali Mahdi's

arch-rival Mohammad Farah

lawlessness four years ago.

tioning since August 1994.

lems in the country."

saying "implementation of

Ali Mahdi

process. It urged the United States and Russia, which are cos-

resolutions," it said in a state-The league said continued

Israeli attacks would endanger the Middle East peace

and force it to stop its milit-

ponsors of the peace negotiators, "to pressure Israel

the Israeli occupation troops

'We told the Americans

Syria said, it had told the United States that the way to resolve problems in South Lebanon was to stop Israel shelling women and children "Israel is the one shelling

civilian villages and killing women and children, stopping these actions will solve the problem," Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam told the Beirut newspaper Al Safir on Mon-

ary operations in South Leba-

Ísrael called Saturday shelling of the children's home in Nabatiyeh a mistake but made no mention of the anti-personnel shells which spray scores of steel nails on mpact to cause the maximum loss of life.

Mr. Khaddam said Syria, which has 35,000 troops in Lebanon, was not ready to tell Hizbollah to stop fighting

when they called regarding the situation in the south... if

Hizbollah will not go-after them to Haifa. Try Hizbollah by withdrawing, and only then will you know the answer," Mr. Khaddam said. He did not say when the conversation with U.S. offi-

the Israelis withdraw then

cials took place. 'Asking Hizbullah to stop the assistance implies an approval of the occupation on our side and that is not

true," Mr. Khaddam said. "What Hizbullah is doing in the south is a right protected by all international laws and no one on earth can demand from Hizbóllah or any other movement resisting an occupation army to stop its resistance," he added.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres played down the tit-for-tat violence on the border with Lebanon.

"A mistake was committed by us," Mr. Peres said on the attack late Saturday. "We don't have the slight-

est intention of escalating the tension in Lebanon," Mr.

unions, Mr. Hariri also

announced higher taxes on

luxury goods like cigars, lip-

stick, silk thread, salomon

and caviar, whisky, wine and cigarettes and reduced taxes

on popular staples like soup.

macaroni, canned meats and

that the government had

already approved the 20 per cent pay rise last December and said money for it had been included in the state

budget. It said the govern-

ment simply failed to send

enabling legislation to parlia-

ment to implement the pay

Schoolteachers, who pro-

voked the pay rise demand with two strikes in recent

But the CGL complained

taxes to pay for it.

### me first Alman William His

# Grant he is making."

ment he can make about

LONDON (AFP) - Fifty firemen and no fewer than 10 fire engines rushed Sunday to fire alert only to find that the flames were from a barbecue in the royal stables, the fire service said. Firemen said that Sunday evening people living on Buckingham Palace Road running beside the palace reported seeing smoke. A man said he had seen clouds of smoke coming out of the buildings inside the palace grounds. "It was our predetermined response to an alert at the palace... But when we got there, the only flames were in a barbecue in the yard at the Royal Mews," i fire service spokesman said. Queen Elizabeth II is not in residence at Buckingham at the moment but is staying at Windsor Castle west of the capital.

#### **Pope: Sexuality** is key uniting men, women

VATICAN CITY (AFP) —

from God to create new life. Sexuality affects the very nature of the human person and marital union, far from being reduced to satisfying an instinct, becomes a message allowing the expression of the profound union between two people, male and female," he told the crowds here. They give themselves to each other, intimately, to express the total and definitive communion of their bodies, while at the same time being charged by and collaborating with God in the gift of life. Referring to a 15-page letter to women from the Pope to be published by the Vatican Monday, the Pontiff said he wanted to show them "the esteem and thanks of the whole Church." Citing the Bible and "God's desire to give men a companion," he added the difference between the sexes was based on a "key unifying factor: There is one but complementary forms, the male and female. It was precisely because women were different, from men but equal to them that they could be an "aid" to them, he said.

#### in Somalia diplomatic missions and inpoisons, intelligence service cassettes and books that ternational conventions," the Egyptian officials said were activities, as well as combat MOGADISHU (R) — Clan militia leader Ali Mahdi Sudanese embassy in Cairo about bomb making, airplane techniques." MENA said Sunday that said in a statement. hijacking and assassination. We had hoped that Egyp-The cases also included pots walkie-talkies and their Mohammad wants Islamic tian authorities would have and pens, vegetable craters rechargers were also seized at Sharia law, with amputations learned their lesson about and other kitchenware. for theft to execution for

the airport from the diploma-The officials said weapons tic pouch of an attache working at the Sudanese embassy also were found, but the exact nature was not disclosed. in Cairo. The cargo was intercepted Egypt accuses Sudan of

by police late Sunday at arming and training Islamic iro airport en route to extremists trying to over-Khartoum, an official said. throw its secular government The sender and receiver of - a charge that Khartoum the cargo was the same perdenies, countering that Cairo son and held a Yemeni passgives Sudanese opposition port, the official said. The individual's name was not re-

(Continued on page 3)

## 3 Mujahedeen-e-Khalq activists shot dead in Baghdad ambush

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Gunmen shot dead three officials of Iran's main armed opposition group in Iraq on Monday when they opened fire on their car with automatic arms and anti-tank rockets, the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq group said.

Mujahedeen spokesman

Farid Suleimani accused the Iranian embassy of "directing" the attack in Baghdad and said one of the three gunmen, an Iranian, was arrested after a 20-kilometre car chase and gunfight.

The assailants opened fire from behind two Mujahedeen vehicles, killing all three in the first car, as they drove to their camp at Ashraf. which was hit Sunday in a rocket attack also blamed on Tehran, Mr. Suleimani said. He said the assailants hit their victims with Israelimade Uzi submachine guns and Kalashnikov automatic rifles. They also fired two RPG-18 anti-tank rockets but

missed their target. Mujahedeen officials in the second car chased the assailants to southern Baghdad, braving automatic weapons fire and hand grenades before they captured one suspect and wounded the other two who managed to flee on foot.

The suspect who was handed over to Iraqi authorities has admitted involvement in a similar May 17 attack here in which two female Mujahedeen officials were killed and third wounded, Mr. Suleimani said.

The car that was seized contained five grenades, three Uzis, two Kalashnikovs, and one RPG-18, as well as papers revealing how the attackers had worked, the Mujahedeen spokesman said.

The three victims were identified as Sayyed Hussein Sudeiry, 34, Ibrahim Suleimi. 36, and Bari Al Kartabar, 33, all of whom have worked for the organisation since 1979. Their bodies were riddled

ith 10 bullets each. Mr. Suleimani said the Iranian embassy was "entirely responsible" for Monday's attack, adding the Mujahe-deen renewed a request to Iraqi authorities to close the

But there was no reaction from Tehran on the latest attack. Iranians foreign ministry spokesman Mahmoud Mohammadi only said Tehran "strongly denies Iraq's claim of an Iranian attack on a civilian target inside Iraq" on Sunday.

And in a dispatch dated from Beirut, the official Iranian news agency IRNA said an Iraqi dissident group had claimed responsibility for the Ashraf attack which Baghdad

said targetted civilians. Iraq summoned the senior Iranian envoy in Baghdad to protest over Sunday's incident, the Iraqi newspaper Al Thawra said.

The Iraqi Muslim Mujahedeen, mentioned by IRNA. is not among familiar names of Iraqi opposition groups.

The headquarters of the terrorist Mujahedeen-e-Khalq organisation, 70 kilometres north of Baghdad. was pounded by 14 missiles of the Iraqi Muslim Mujahedeen Sunday," said IRNA.

"Iraq strongly denounced and condemns this aggressive act and holds the Iranian government fully responsibility for it." Al Thawra said. quoting a spokesman for the Iraqi Foreign Ministry.

"It (Iraq) reserves full right of legitimate defence in the face of the Iranian aggression with appropriate means and at a suitable time," Al Thaw-

In a separate commentary, Al Thawra slammed Iran's clerical government and accused it of political hypocrisy.

We shall not reveal a secret if we say that the Iranian regime has not translated its declared desire to normalise relations with Iraq into action so far," said the paper.

It said Iran's overtures to Iraq were not serious and were only meant to curry favour with the West.

Mujahedeen leader Massoud Rajavi, meanwhile, sent a telegram to U.N. Secretary

(Continued on page 7)

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's labour unions called on Mon-braced for a showdown, strations to force the government to scrap taxes announced last week by billionaire Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri.

The General Labour Confederation (CGL) issued a call for a one-day general strike and protest demonstrations across Lebanon for July

A union committee within the CGL which groups port. electricity, insurance and public transport workers independently called a separate one-day strike for July 12.

The CGL said the general strike was to protest against taxes announced by Mr. Hariri last Thursday to pay for a 20 per cent pay rise for Lebanon's 120.000 public sector workers, including civil servants, army, police and security forces.

absolute rejection of the taxes and import duties imposed by the government and called on it to revoke them." the union confederation said in a statement after a lead-

"The CGL repeated its

ership meeting. .

Aideed, whose clan militia controls parts of south Moga-Somalia had a secular con-BANGALORE (AFP) -- Institution from independence dian police on Monday in 1960 - although it has not been adhered to since all state institutions collapsed with the overthrow of the last

government in 1991. Most Somalis have aligned themselves according to their clan in the troubled 1990s. Religion and nationalism have so far failed to bring them together.

Many Mogadishu residents also point out that swarms of Gen. Aideed's Habre Gedir clansmen have invaded Mogadishu and the fertile hinterland during the last four years of civil strife. occupying houses and vast

swathes of farming land. In north Mogadishu, the Sharia courts have served to return properties to their original owners. The system was conde-

mned by the United Nations mission, which spent billions of dollars trying to put Somalia back together between 1992 and March this year.

The government appeared out raising money through backing down.

"We will not go back on our decision for any reason." acting Finance Minister Fouad Siniora told a news conference as the CGL held its meeting.

The unions were particularly angered by a 38 per cent hike in the price of petrol ordered by the government on Thursday.

CGL leader Elias Abu

Rizk said at the time that raising petrol prices in Lebanon, where there is virtually no public transport, was like raising the price of bread and it would have a roll-on effect on other commodities.

Unions, politicians and religious leaders have repeatedwarned the government it facing a possible social explosion because it has paid too little attention to the needs of lower-income groups while pressing ahead with Lebanon's costly postwar reconstruction,

Mr. Hariri said his cashstrapped government, which is battling a huge budget de-ficit, could not grant the pub-lic sector pay increase with-

summer holiday. The schoolteachers are currently refusing to correct final examinations for tens of thousands of students who -will be unable to apply for university places if they do

## Delhi murder suspect arrested

arrested a former ruling party politician near this western city on charges of murdering his wife and burning the body in a New Delhi restaurant oven, officials said. Police arrested Sushil

Kumar Sharma, a former president of the New Delhi chapter of India's ruling Congress (I) party, after he arrived here on an inter-state bus from the port city of Madras in Tamil Nadu state. The arrest ended a coun-

tryside hunt for the 36-yearold Sharma since July 2 when the mutilated body of his wife, Naina Sahni, 29, was discovered burning in the tandoori grill of the Bagia Bar-Be-Oue restaurant in downtown New Delhi.

District police chief S.K. Venugopal said the politician was held with his counsel Ananatha Murthy, 25 kilometres from Bangalore, but sources said the prime suspect in the macabre tan-

doori murder case had surrendered. 'Sharma appeared nervous

and said the current Youth Congress president, Maninderjit Singh Bitta, would have been tortured in police custody." Mr. Venugopai The arrest came just hours

after division bench of the Madras High Court Monday suspended bail given to Mr. Sharma following a nationwide outery against the grant of protection from arrest to the prime suspect in the macabre case.

Judges T.S. Arunachalam and A. Thangamani ruled in Madras that police were free to arrest the high-flying former politician from Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's party.

The ruling came three days after a lower court in Madras granted "anticipatory bail" to Mr. Sharma in line with a procedure which offers advance protection to persons fearing arrest.

The earlier order, which was to remain in force for two weeks, sparked widespread protests with lawyers' fora. opposition parties and women's groups demanding the immediate arrest of Shar-

not get their results.

The murder has sparked street protests in New Delhi by women's groups and va-rious political parties, including the Congress, which has expelled Mr. Sharma from the party for life. Mr. Sharma, who has

served as president of the Delhi Youth Congress, from 1989 to January 1995, was the subject of one of the largest manhunts in India's recent history. Meanwhile, in New Delhi,

Keshav Kumar, a co-suspect in the crime, broke down and wept saying he feared for his life. Mr. Kumar was arrested for allegedly helping in the clandestine restaurant crema-

Hugh Grant, Liz Hurley

'are history'

LONDON (AFP) - British actor Hugh Grant and his longtime love Elizabeth Hurley have broken up after his arrest with a known prostitute in California, the tabloid Sunday Mirror reported. Several British tabloids ran pictures of Hurley and Grant taken Saturday in their Bath country home, and wondered in print if the couple's eightyear love affair would survive his several-minutes liaison with someone else in his car. But the Sunday Mirror, quoting a "highly-placed source at Estee Lauder," said the pair decided to splir up in order to preserve Hurley's career. She became a star model -- landing an extremely lucrative deal with the Estee Lauder cosmetics company - partially on the strength of her association with Grant, who appeared in the hit Four Weddings and A Funeral. 'Really, what Liz has done is brought forward something which was already on the 🥽 horizon, even before the hooker incident." the source said. "But the two have agreed to remain good friends." Meanwhile, Grant was to face U.S. television cameras with his first public comments since being arrested with a prostitute in Hollywood, Grant left London for New York Sunday night for an appearance on NBC's Late Show, a latenight talk show hosted by Jay Leno, a caustic-tongued personality who has been poking fun at Grant since he was arrested in his parked car with prostitute Divine Brown. The 34-year-old actor is charged with lewd conduct. a charge that carries a possible fine and jail sentence on conviction. "Leno is going for gold with this one," an NBC source was quoted in London as saying, "For the past week he has been flogging the subject to death on his show — every little com-

## Barbecue brings fire brigade to **Buckingham**

Palace

#### weeks, rejected the proposed increase, complaining it would be delayed until October when parliament ends its

Pope John Paul II said Sunday sexuality was the language uniting men and 3 women, and expression of their love and yet also a gift heing who exists in different

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